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### Chinese ship waits at entrance to Gulf

DUBAI (R) - A Chinese ship suspected of carrying a cargo of chemical weapons materials to Iran was waiting Saturday outside the Strauts of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf, a U.S. Navy spokesman said. Lieutenant Commander Bruce Cole said the U.S. navy was maintaining surveillance of the vessel, which was in framian territorial waters. Monitoring included "visual sighting, radar contact, and could include aircraft surveillance," he said. "U.S. naval forces have done nothing to impede the progress of the Yinhe," spokesman Cole told Reuters. China's official Xinhua news agency, quoting officials at the China Ocean Shipping Corp, said the Yinhe would another 15 miles off Oman "to ensure the safety of the vessel and crew" and take on new supplies of fuel and water. The United States claims that the Yinhe is attempting to transport banned ingredients for chemial weapons to fran. It has been tracking the ship and has vowed to inspect its eargn. Beijing says the Iran bound containers contain only paper goods, hardware and machine parts and has accused Washington of acting like "a self-anointed international police-man," by interfering in the ship's voyage.



### Woman killed in Assiut shootout

ASSIUT (AP) - Muslim extremists ambushed a patrol car, and the gunfight when police returned fire killed a woman and wounded her nephew and a man sharing their taxi, authorities said Saturday. Salah Abdul Azim, chief prosecutor in the southern Egypt village Al Ousiva, said neither the police nor the three gunmen were wounded. The attackers escaped, but Mr. Abdul Azim said they are Islamic extremists. The leader was identified as Ahmad Al Senoussi, a fugitive trained as a lawyer who is wanted for two attacks on Al Qusiya's police rest house in which two officers were slain. Mr. Abdul Azim also reported the arrests Saturday of two men suspected of being members with Mr. Senoussi of a six-man gang responsible for the second rest house attack, last Monday. Shooting erupted as the police cruiser made a routine patrol of Al-Qusiva's street. Friday night. A taxi carrying Soad Gomma, 45, her eight-year-old nephew and a 20-year-old passenger blundered into the cross fire. All three were hit, but the driver Mrs. Gomaa's brother, escaped injury. The Interior Ministry in Cairo said Mrs. Gomaa died in a hospital. 24 acquitted; judge slams police, page 10

Volume 17 Number 5383

AMMAN SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 1993 SAFR 25, 1414

Price: 150 Fils

# Speculation that Election Law might be changed shortly is scotched by officials

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff, reporter

AMMAN - Speculation is rife that the government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majah is about to recommend to His Majesty the King the adoption of a one-person-one-vote formula for the Nov. 8 elections but official sources insist that the enactment of a new law introducing the change would first have to pass through some constitutional stages which have not taken place.

According to the speculation, mainly by people close to the government but not members of it, the adoption of a new temporary law to govern the next elections would come by Monday. Members of the Cabinet, however, discount that possibility since they say they have not yet looked at any draft legislation, and they are not even aware that it exists.

It was expected that the proposed amendment would come up for Cabinet discussion during Saturday's regular cabinet meeting, but sources say that the Cabinet only discussed routine issues and decentralisation in gavernment.

A temporary law, which is enacted only in the absence of Parhament, has to go through a somewhat lengthy procedure beginning with a first draft presented by the ministry concerned in this case the Ministry of Interior — to the Prime Ministry's diwan (office) of legislation and interpretation, which in turn forwards it to the justice minister for further study and consultations with other ministries.

The draft law is then sent to the full cabinet for debate and approval, before submitting it to the King, who would accept or reject it.
If Parliament is in session,

hewever, the law would be turned over from the Cabinet to the House where it is discussed and ratified.

The cabinet has not, as of vet. received any draft law for discussion." a senior official told the Jordan Times Friday. Theoretically, the law could be ratified by the Cabinet during one regular meeting of the Cabinet but the

By Ayman Al Safadi

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A number of former

members of the Lower House of

Parliament Saturday renewed

their threats to take the govern-

ment to court if it changes the

Election Law through a tempor-

ary legislation and legal experts

say the deputies will have a legal

At a meeting to draft a plan of

action to challenge a possible

unilateral government decision to

change the law. 14 deputies failed

to agree on boycotting the elec-

tions if the government changed

hood, leftist and centrist legisla-

tors agreed to invite other former

members of the House and heads

BEIRUT (Agencies) - Arab

League Secretary General Esmat

Abdul Meguid held talks with

Lebanese leaders Saturday on

ways of speeding up Arab aid to

South Lebanon, devastated in an

Also Saturday, a senior United

nations envoy flew in on -2

four-day visit to inspect the dam-

age inflicted on Lebanon during

the week-long aerial, naval and

undersecretary-general for huma-

nitarian affairs, told reporters at

the airport he plans to work closely with a U.N. team which

Jan Eliasson, the U.N.

Israeli assault last month.

ground bombardments.

Arab League,

senior official predicted that it would be discussed thoroughly because it is an important and

controversial law." Controversy has surrounded the adoption of a one-personone-vote system since it became apparent that the government was considering such a move.

Political parties and personalities have been lobbying the public as well as official circles to preempt the decision, with some going as far as preparing legal cases against the enactment of a temporary law.

The government reportedly toved with the idea of effecting the change through executive orders, rather than issuing a new temporary law, but the proposed plan had to be abandoned apparently because it would have been unconstitutional

Sources privy to official thinking said it was inevitable for the government to change the law after its commitment to do so has become well known to the public.

"The campaign for the change has reached its peak and it is apparent that with the approaching of the Aug. 15 deadline for registration the decision has to be announced very soon." one of the sources said. "The government's credibility rests on this change, and if it is not made today, it will be, tomorrow or sometime soon."

The change to the proposed system would mean that voters would be able to cast their vote in favour of only one candidate in their district regardless of the number of representatives allocated to the district. In the 1989 elections, every voter was able to vote in all his or her district's deputies, a number which varies from one area to another, thus enabling the organised groups, but mainly the Muslim Brotherhood, to win a large share of the

Most political parties have announced their rejection of the imposition of a one-person-onevote formula. The powerful Islamic Action Front (IAF), which predicts tough challenge from independent traditionalist candidates, even threatened to boycott the elections if the change was

statement condemning the Aug. 4

Jordan Times that they did not

agree with Mr. Shbeilat that the

dissolution of Parliament was un-

constitutional. "We only agreed

to hold further meetings on the

issue of changing the Election Law," one of them said.

Mr. Shbeilat contended that

Some deputies pursue legal challenge

Shbeilat claimed that at least 25 they will contest the change on former lawmakers approved of a the grounds that it would be

to possible changes to Election Law

Under the current bloc-voting system, the Muslim Brotherhood movement, which is the backbone of the IAF, was able to form alliances that enabled it to win 23

seats in the 1989 elections, The change, if it is made, would deny the IAF the opporsunity to form such alliances and therefore is unlikely to win more than 17-20 seats, according to

ลกลโรรเร. The government might have changed the law earlier, except for the concern about wellorganised groups such as the IAF being able to mobilise their forces to offset the impact of the change, well-informed sources have maintaind.

"It is therefore possible that the government has waited this long (first until the July 31 deadine for voter transfer from one district to another and then until the Aug. 15 deadline for registering voters have passed) before issuing the temporary law," one of those sources said.

Other, equally well-informed sources, predict that the government might opt to delay its announcement for even longer time "to guard against linking the dissolution of the Lower House of parliament to the impending change." One of the sources said the government "wants to maintain an image of being democratic." The 11th parliament was dissolved Aug. 4.

Opposition to the proposed law has unified the most unlikely political forces in the country who joined hands over the past few weeks to lobby against the amendment.

The IAF has been careful to say that it would boycott the next elections in case the law was changed to its detriment but the front still hopes to rally a similar position from other political parties before making such a move so that the boycott would "be politically effective."

To this effect, the IAF has held meetings with influential political personalities who have also expressed their opposition to the amendment. The latest meeting was held late last week with former Prime Minister Taher Al Masri, former Irbid Deputy Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, Com-

munist Karak Deputy Issa Mdanat and Amman Deputy Faris Nabulsi. Representing the IAF in this meeting was Irbid Deputy Abdul Rahim Akour.

Sources close to the meeting maintain that there was no discusaion of preempting the decision to issue a new law but the conferees sought to lay down strategy to guard against boycott by any political party and the "resurgence of

Analysts have said that the roposed change is certain to tip the balance in favour of independent and traditionalist candidates and away from political parties' candidates. This analysis has encouraged many tribes in the Kingdom to coordinate their efforts and choose a representative from one tribe or another. Faced with this problem, political parties have integrated the tribal formula into their choice of candidates.

"It is too late to sit down and prepare to stop the law," a source close to last week's meeting told the Jordan Times. "This meeting, like many others that are taking place among concerned politicians, was to prepare for the next step," the source stressed, quashing earlier reports that the deputies who attended had sought to join forces and lobby against the enactment of a new

The IAF, during its meetings with the leftists and influential independents, has been advised against boycotting the elections, and to focus instead on efforts to maintian the "integrity" of the elections, the source continued.

Earlier, representatives of political parties and opposition figures as well as former deputies met in a bid to consider what to do on any "unconstitutional or illegal" government action concerning the controversial legisla-

At a meeting they held Tues-day, the majority of participants agreed to meet Saturday to continue coordination on the subject of changing the law but very few agreed with the organisers at the meeting, Leith Shbeilat, that the dissolution of parliament was "unconstitutional and politically dangerous." (see story below).

court will have to decide whether

determining the existence of the

extraordinary situation existed or

not is an act of sovereignty that

only the political power can rule

on or a part of its jurisdiction as a

And while there are legal argu-

ments for both cases, Mr. Hikmat

said more legal experts agree that

deciding on that point is within the authority of courts.

Accordingly, "the deputies will have a case," if they contest a

temporary legislation through

which the government might change the Election Law, Mr.

tic process in the country and will

Changing the law against the

will of the majority of the coun-

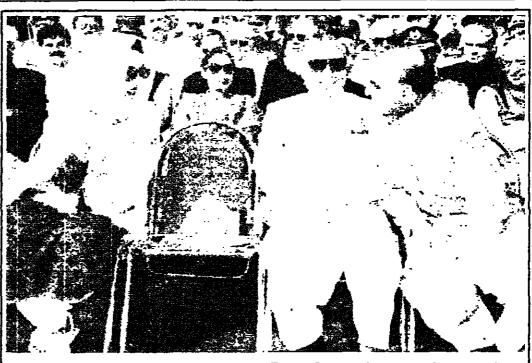
try's political forces, they say,

cast doubt on the credibility of

bode ill for its future.

court of justice.

Hikmat said.



FRIENDLY ENCOUNTER: Pakistan's caretaker Premier Moeen Qureski (right) chats with former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto (left) during the Pakistani Independence Day ceremony Saturday.

Former Speaker of the National assembly Gohar Ayub (centre) under Nawaz Sharif's regime also attended the flag hoisting ceremony (AFP photo)

# U.S., Britain and France serve ultimatum on Libya

Combined agency dispatches

UNITED NATIONS - America. Britain and France say they will try to freeze Libya's financial assets and ban its purchase of oil equipment if Tripoli does not turn over two suspects in an airline bombing by Oct. 1.

The three nations, while endorsing the continuation of economic sanctions, said in a statement Friday that they would introduce "a resolution strengthening the sanctions in key oilrelated, financial and technological areas" (see text on page 2).
Their statement, read by U.S.

Ambassador Madeleine K. tion a ban on Libvan oil sales an embargo that would be opposed by Italy and other European nations which depend on Libvan oil.

The U.S. administration had

sought tougher terms, a 30-day deadline and an oil embargo, but Britain and France only would consider a ban on oil equipment sales to Libya, according to diplomatic sources. They spoke on condition of anonymity. The Western diplomats said

that the warning referred to a freezing of Libyan financial assets abroad, imports of oil-related arrangements for the two susequipment to Libya and other

technology. The statement by the three allies was issued after the 15-

member Security Council ex-tended the aviation, arms and the families whose relatives died diplomatic sanctions against Libva for a fifth time.

The Libyan government remained silent on the affair Satur-

"There is no comment at the present time," said a Foreign Ministry official in Tripoli contacted by Reuters over the phone from Tunis. Libyan media had not reported

the ultimatum 12 hours after it was delivered. Recently progress has been re-

ported in arranging the surrender of the men. On Aug. 4, a U.N. spokesman

Libya were making progress in negotiations to bring the two Libyans to trial in Britain. Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Mustafa Al Muntasser conferred earlier this month with Secretary-General Bourros Ghali and a vered a new Libyan proposal.

Dr. Ghali said later it calls fc. the men to be delivered for trial. Joe Sills, chief spokesman for Dr. Ghali, told reporters that Libya wants a U.N. delegation to visit Tripoli to verify that there are no "terrorist" training camps in the country and to make

pects' extradition. In another sign that the dispute would be resolved, a Libyan offiin the Pan Am bombing. Not all council members favour

toughening the sanctions. The

resolution imposing the existing curbs was adopted by a vote of only 10 in favour, with five abstentions. This was only one vote more than the minimum of nine needed

to pass a resolution, in the absence of a big-power veto. Those abstaining were China, Cape Verde, India, Morocco and

Zimbabwe. All are still council members except Zimbabwe. since replaced by Djibouti, and India, replaced by Pakistan.

During Friday's closed-door review, Pakistan's representative agreed to maintain the original sanctions but said his government "does not support the imposition of any additional sanctions on

Speaking to reporters after closed consultations about the sanctions, Ms. Albright, the Security Council president, said: "There was no agreement that the necessary conditions existed for the modification," of sanc-

As usual, there was no open meeting or vote.

The United States and Britain have indicted the two Libvans in connection with the Pan Am bombing.

"temporary headquarters in Jericho, until the occupationis ended and the final status and full sovereignty of the Palestinians in the occupied territories is achieved.' Mr. Abu Sharif also called on

the Israeli government to stop its "game of hide and seek" and negotiate directly with the PLO. Israel still refuses, though it has been edging closer to recognising the PLO through a series of

Last week, the PLO named seven of the Palestinian negotiators with Israel to a PLO committee, and said the seven now officially represented the orga-

"They (the negotiators) were always members of the PLO, but if you like it, it is now public and official," Mr. Abu Sharif said Saturday.

very quickly there could be new

was released Tuesday. Ali Mustafa Jidi, a contractor

# plot against the King

holding 10 people for months on suspicion they were plotting to assassinate King Hussein at a university ceremony in June, international news agencies said Saturday.

Official sources quoted by Reuters, Agence France Presse and the Association Press said they were members of the banned Islamic Liberation Party. The party's spokesman and his assistants, Ata Abu Rushteh and Baker Khawaldeh, were detained on May 23, weeks after most of the others, the reports said.

members of the Mu'ta University staff were arrested April 15 after the plot was uncovered. Twentythree suspects have been freed, most of them this week, after extensive interrogation.

two are at large, the officials said. The 10 will be formally charged at a public session of a special State Security Court. But the date for the hearing has not yet been fixed, they said.

were suspected members of the ILF, which seeks to establish an Islamic state in Jordan, the agency reports said.

The arrests were first reported last month by their families and the Cairo-based Arab Organisation for Human Rights, which complained that 31 suspects were being held without charge.

students at Mu'ta University,

AMMAN (Agencies) — The were moved to a military jail Jordanian authorities have been earlier this month and will probearlier this month and will probably stand trial after Aug. 20, they said. Relatives quoted in the reports

said the authorities would also try them for membership of an illegal Islamic group. The government has declined comment on the detentions. "We

have nothing to say," an official spokesman was quoted as saying by Reuters. Information Minister Ma'n Abu Nowar confirmed to the AP that arrests have been made in a

state security matter, but would give no details. "My information is that the issue is in the hands of the judiciary, but I cannot say anything more than this," Dr. Abu Nowar

told the AP. The Security officials had no details about how the plot was to be implemented, but said the men planned to assassinate King Hussein, 57, June 26 during the graduation ceremony at Mu'ta University, 130 kilometres south

of Amman. Nawaf Jdeifat, a businessman in Zarqa, 25 kilometres northeast of Amman, told AP Saturday that his son Fouad, 21, was

among those still in jail. He said that another son, Jihad, a police officer at Mu'ta,

in Irbid, said his son, Hussein, 19, an electrical engineering student at Mu'ta "disappeared in April,

(Continued on page 3)

## **Arafat** adviser proposes **Jericho** government

Combined agency dispatches

PARIS (R) - A senior aide to Palestine Liberation Organisa-tion (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has proposed that the PLO establish a provisional government under Mr. Arafat's leadership in the occupied West Bank town of Jencho.

"I suggest the formation of a provisional Palestinian government including people from the occupied territories and the PLO. perhaps also some members of its Executive Committee," Bassam Abu Sharif told the French daily Liberation in an interview published Saturday. Mr. Abu Sharif said Mr. Arafat

would head the government which he said "could in the near future negotiate the final stage of the peace process in order to resolve problems in a more efficient way."

He said the provisional government could be based in Jericho on the West Bank.

Mr. Abu Sharif, a political adviser to Mr. Arafat, said he believed the plan could help break the deadlock in the talks over the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Speaking to Israel army radio

in a telephone interview from Tunis Saturday, Mr. Abu Shari? said it was his personal plan and that he had not discussed it with others in the PLO.

Israeli Cabinet Minister Chaim Ramon immediately rejected the dea, saying it violated the Israeli-Palestinian agreement to move towards a settlement in two

Under that agreement, Palestinians and Israelis are to negotiate a formula for limited Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territor ies, and in the third year of autonomy talks on the final status

of the territories are to begin. But Palestinians want stronger assurances that autonomy would not be the end of the road for them. Several compromise proposals have emerged, including the idea of Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho before an interim settlement has been worked

Mr. Abu Sharif proposed thatthe joint government would have

meetings between cabinet minis-ters and PLO officials.

Israeli officials have ignored the declarations about the delegates' status. Israel has acknow-

ledged that the Palestinian negotiators get their instructions from Tunis. But it stops short of talking to Mr. Arafat himself for fear he would raise a new set of demands and be unwilling to stay within the two-stage formula. Asked by Liberation if the

negotiating team might be reshuf-fled, Mr. Abu Sharif said, "the delegation will continue its work until there is a qualitative change in relations between the PLO and the Israeli government. And I think that will happen quickly." "Conditions are ripe so that

contacts between PLO officials and members of the Israeli government," Mr. Abu Sharif said, Mr. Abu Sharif said last week's PLO crisis was one of logistics

because the negotiators lived in Jerusalem and the PLO leadership was in Tunis. The Arafat aide said the talks

were entering a key period which should lead to something concrete before the end of the

### the law but decided to contest despite the low turn-out at Satur-Opponents of changing the law, however, are not restricting told the Jordan Times Saturday such decision in court, according day's meeting, he was "certain of that the deputies will have a case to former independent Islamist Deputy Leith Shbeilat, who the support of at least 30 to 40 if they meet two conditions. First their arguments to legal considerations. Politics figures high on if they cite the dissolution of Jordan's largest political party, hosted the meeting. The former Muslim Brothertheir argument. They say that changing the law will be "a blow" to the democra-

the Islamic Action Front (IAF). has earlier threatened to boycott the polls if they were to be held under a new law. The government has not yet

has been in Lebanon for a week

to assess the damage in southern

Eliasson held talks with president

Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister

visit to Lebanon as secretary-

general of the Arab League, met

separately with Mr. Hrawi, Mr.

Hariri, Foreign Minister Faris

Bouez and Parliament Speaker

'I am fully prepared to under-

take whatever effort is required

to implement Arab League re-

He left after the talks.

Shortly after his arrival, Mr.

Dr. Abdul Meguid, on his first

villages and towns.

Rafik Al Hariri.

Nabih Berri.

of political parties to another announced a decision on whether meeting at the Brotherhood's a change of the law is in the office to discuss the issue on making but there are many in-Saturday's discussions were a dications that it is heading in that follow up on a meeting held Wednesday after which Mr.

direction. Mr. Shbeilat and the IAF said

ment to change the law through a dissolution of the House as unprovisional legislation. constitutional and warning of a legal action against the govern-ment if it changed the Election The Constitution empowers King Hussein to issue temporary But deputies who participated in that meeting later told the

legislation in extraordinary situations, on the recommendation of the government. Opponents of the change say these situations do not exist now and the government could have presented any new legislation to the House had it not been dissolved. The mandate of the 11th Parliament would have ended on Nov. 23.

unconstitutional for the govern-

A prominent Jordanian lawyer Parliament as a prelude to introducing the temporary legislation. Second, if the court decided that it was within its jurisdiction to determine whether the extraordinary situations in which the Constitution allows for provision-

al laws existed or not. Former Cabinet member and lawyer Taher Hikmat said that the government and the democrabefore looking into the case, a tisation process.

solutions providing for aid to Lebanon," Dr. Abdul Meguid

said upon arrival at Beirut airport

**U.N. discuss Lebanon aid** 

at 10:30 a.m. (0730 GMT). After meeting Mr. Hrawi, Dr. Abdul Meguid said he plans to dispatch an envoy to several Arab countries before he begins a tour in the region to collect the promised aid.

whether Mr. Hariri would accompany him, as earlier press reports suggested. The foreign ministers of Arab League countries have promised \$500 million in aid to Lebanon

following the Israeli blitz against

He said it was not yet decided

Several Arab countries, mainly Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Syria, have already sent tents, blankets, mattresses, medicines and food to families in South Lebanon.

Dr. Abdul Meguid said the Arab League welcomed Beirut sending 300 troops south last Monday as such steps could stabilise the area but guerrillas should continue to resist Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

"Resistance of any occupation is legal," he told reporters at Beirut airport. "There is an occupation and this occupation must be resisted.

# U.N. seen practising for raid on Aideed

MOGADISHU (Agencies)

but soldiers at the heavilydefended airport said the aircraft General Aideed.

The United Nations has offered a reward of \$25,000 for the arrest of Gen. Aideed, who it accuses of ordering the massacre of 24 Pakistani troops in early

Despite a series of bloody U.N. assaults on houses and districts loosely-controlled by the former army general and rebel leader. Gen. Aideed has avoided capture and has organised a hit-and-run guerrilla war.

Air traffic into Mogadishu's U.N.-controlled airport was briefly halted Saturday when U.S. attack helicopters staged exercises that could herald an attack on fugitive warlord Mohammad

Farah Aideed. About 15 helicopters, including wasp-like Cobras and bulkier Blackhawks, took off in a swarm from the seaside airport and swooped over the city for several minutes before landing again.

There was no official comment

were practising for an attack on Several practice runs have taken place since last Sunday, when gunmen ambushed a U.S. military convoy in central Moga-

dishu and killed four U.S. sol-

diers with what appeared to be a

remote-controlled bomb that blew up their vehicle.

# cial said Monday that his country Jordan holding 10 for

They said 31 students and

Eight cadets remain in jail and

All those arrested in April

The detainees, most of them

# Glimmer of progress appears on Mideast peace

TUNIS — A glimmer of progress has appeared on Middle East peace. Israel has taken new strides towards direct talks with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Palestinians have reorganised their leadership to be ready for hard deci-

A leadership crisis among the Palestinians ended Thursday with Yasser Arafat conceding seats on a top PLO committee to peace delegates from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

That means Israel will be negotiating with the PLO when peace talks resume in Washington on Aug. 30, as

looks likely.

Israel, which used to dismiss the PLO as "terrorists", barely blinked. "For us it doesn't matter," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said. "It's the same members of the delegation, the same names, the same people, the same procedure.

The Palestinians also decided to form "reference bodies" throughout the occupied territories and revive a "national dialogue," aiming to rally ordinary Palestinians to support the peace process and keep even opponents in-

formed. The moves do not solve the basic argument over how much independence Israel is ready to give Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, the

issue at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But they begin to create a framework in which a fair compromise could be made and then successfully sold to the Palestinians in the occupied territories and scattered through the Middle East and the rest of the world.

If Israel fully accepts the PLO, officials in exile as well as delegates from the occupied territories, the Jewish state would finally be negotiating with the leaders most Palestinians regard as their legitimate representatives: The people authorised to make a deal.

"I see the emergency of a possible historic outcome, PLO strategist Nabil Shaath said. "In every case of decolonisation that you know and in every case of serious people-to-people conflict, the real breakthrough comes when the occupied recognises the outside leadership of the

The Israeli taboo on negotiating with the PLO has been melting away since a law banning contacts with it was repealed in January. Environment Minister Yossi Sarid met Dr. Shaath in Cairo last

The Palestinians hope dialogue with the PLO will make it possible to start negotiations now on a final settlement in the West Bank and. Gaza, breaking the deadlock in the official peace talks on a five-year interim period of Palestinian self-rule.

The biggest obstacles to progress on the interim period are fears of preempting the final settlement.

Israelis block anything that might support future Palestinian claims to an independent state. Palestinians refuse anything which might admit future Israeli claims to any of the occupied land.

If the deadlock can be broken, the new organisa-tions set up by the Palesti-nians to inform and involve their people will be vital to convince a sceptical, even despairing public

"We should take into consideration that maybe in a short period of time we should take hard decisions," Yasser Abed-Rabbo, a member of the PLO's Executive Committee, told Reuters on Thursday.

"If we cannot have a referendum, if we cannot have a way to ask the people about their position, we should find some ways of contacting the people and telling them.

"It is not enough to have a meeting of the (Palestine) Central Council and say we discussed everything there. There are people in every place, in every region, who feel they are interested and feel they should share the responsibility of taking the decisions," he said.

Movement on the Palestinian issue would immediately produce progress in negotiations between Israel and the other Arabs - Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.



RELIEVED: Marim and Khadiga, daughters of one of the fundamentalists on trial for the assas-sination of parliamentary Speaker Rifact Al Mahjoub, visit their father Saturday. The high state security court acquitted all 24 Islamic militants

after excluding evidence obtained through torture but it sentenced 10 of them to jail terms ranging from 3 years to 15 for carrying weapons and forged papers (AFP photo)

# **Hizbollah commemorates Obeid abduction**

JIBSHEET, Lebanon (AP) — Hizbollah (Party of God) Friday commemorated the abduction of one of its clerics by Israeli troops four years ago with a pledge to keep up its armed struggle against

Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a mosque preacher and Hizbollah member, was taken from his home in the village of Jibsheet on July 28, 1989, by helicopterborne Israeli commandos.

To mark the occasion, Sheikh Naim Qassem, deputy leader of the Shiite Muslim group, led a rally in Jibsheet's main mosque. Sheikh Obeid's four young children, attended the gathering.

"Resistance is an act of fighting and confronting the enemy. Sheikh Qassem said. "This is our

He called for financial support from the Lebanese people and government to help sustain the armed resistance and the civilian population facing Israeli re-

Jibsheet, a major Hizbollah stronghold, took the brunt of

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week-long Israeli air, naval and artillery attacks in late July that destroyed 70 villages in South Lebanon, killed nearly 150 people and wounded about 500. Nearly 500,000 people were dis-

The offensive was triggered by guerrilla attacks against Israeli troops occupying the so-called "security zone" in South Lebanon and rocket barrages across the border.

placed in the campaign.

The Israeli campaign was halted by a U.S.-brokered ceasefire July 30.

Sheikh Qassem urged the Beirut government to "save no effort at all international levels to bring the release of Sheikh Obeid and all the (holy fighters) held by

Hizbollah claims to hold at least two Israeli servicemen captured in an ambush in South Lebanon Feb. 17, 1986. Sheikh Obeid's release has been a key demand by the group.

Israel believes the two soldiers, Yossi Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh. died after their capture

from wounds they suffered during the ambush.

Israel, has reportedly demanded accurate information on the two servicemen as well as airman Ron Arad who was captured when his jet fighter was downed in South Lebanon Oct. 16, 1986.

Sheikh Obeid's 11-year-old son, Sajid, addressed Friday's rally. He said: "We, Sheikh Obeid's four children, plead with international and humanitarian organisations to obtain our father's freedom like they worked for the release of the Western hostages."

Some 90 foreigners abducted in Lebanon during the civil war which ended in 1990. The last Western hostages, two German relief workers, were released in Beirut June 17, 1992.

"Is it fair that foreign hostages return to their families while we remain without our father?" said Sheikh Obeid's eldest son.

The cleric's daughter, Mujahida, 5 and two other sons Mujahid, 10, and Mujtabih, 6, sat in



Children of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a pro-Iranian Hizbollah leader who was kidnapped four years ago by the Israeli army in southern Lebanon, stand Friday under an effigy of their father, who is still held in Israel (AFP photo)

# Text of statement warning Libya

statement issued Friday by the United States, Britain and France threatening tougher sanctions against Libya unless by Oct. 1 it surrenders for trial two suspects in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 270 people:

Over 16 months have passed since the Security Council imposed sanctions on the govern-ment of Libya for failure to comply with its demands as set forth in United Nations Security Council Resolution 731 that Libya commit itself concretely and definitively to cease all forms of terrorist action and all assistance to terrorist groups, agree to surrender the two accused of bombing Pan Am 103 for trial in Scotland or the U.S., respond fully to the requests put forward by the French judge investigating the bombing of UTA 772, and provide evidence or information about the bombings of Pan Am 103 and UTA 772.

Today, for the fourth time, the council has reviewed Libyan compliance with sanctions as called for in U.N. Security Council Resolution. 748 and found Libya once again to be in defiance of the will of the international community. Instead of seeking ways to cooperate with the council and the U.N. secretary-general, Libya has consistently sought ways to avoid full

compliance.
The U.S., U.K. and France have observed with diminishing patience that the U.N. secretary-general's envoys to Tripoli repeatedly come back. empty-handed, without indications of compliance although with many assurances of Libya's cooperation. We have waited the four months requested by the Arab League secretary-general who wished to serve as an intermediary between the international com-

have repeatedly rejected Libyan efforts to distract the international community from its lack of compliance with empty offers to surrender the Lockerbie suspects and to comply with the requirements of French justice and to prove their partial compliance with the Security Council's de-

However, our three governments, in the interests of giving Libya one last chance, have asked the U.N. secretarygeneral to look into the matter and take the necessary steps, tion by the Libyan government . of Resolution 731 within 40 to 45 days.

If, by October 1, the Libyan government has failed to comply with resolutions 731 and 748, including the transfer to U.S. or U.K. jurisdiction of the Lockerbie suspects and compliance with the requests of French justice on UTA 772, we will table a resolution strengthening the sanctions in key oil-related, financial, and technological areas.

Once more, our three governments reiterate that they have no hidden agenda and that, on the contrary, upon full implementation by Libya of Security Council resolutions 731 and 748, the conditions would be met for the lifting of sanctions by the Security Council.

List of sanctions

The following mandatory sanctions have been in force against Libya since April 15, 1992. They were imposed by Security Council Resolution 748 (1992), adopted on March 31, 1992, by a vote of 10 in favour and none against, with five abstentions. It gave Libya a two-week grace period before the sanctions went

Air embargo

All countries, must prohibit any planes from using their territory or airspace on their way to or from Libya, unless a Security Council sanctions committee grants an exception on humanitarian grounds.

Also banned are the supply to Libya of any aircraft or aircraft parts, engineering or mainte-nance services for Libyan planes, any certification of airworthiness, new insurance for Libyan aircraft or the payment of claims against existing insurance contracts.

Arms embargo

All countries must bar the sale or transfer to Libya of arms and related material of all types, including ammunition, military vehicles, paramilitary police equipment, as well as spare parts for any of those items.

They are also barred from providing Libya with any technical advice or training related to the supply, manufacturer, maintenance or use of those items, and must withdraw any of their officials advising Libya on military

Diplomatic embargo

All countries must significantly reduce the number and level of staff at Libyan diplomatic and consular missions on their territory and restrict the movement of those staff who remain. In the case of international organisations, the host government may consult the organisation con-cerned on what measures to carry

All countries must also prevent the operation of all Libyan Arab Airlines offices.

They must deny entry to, or expel. Libyans who have been denied entry to, or expelled from, other countries because of their involvement in "terrorist" activi-

# U.S. letter demanded Demjanjuk's release

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. embassy in Israel has written the Israeli government that the continued detention of John Demjanjuk may violate its extradition treaty with the United States, according to a copy of the letter obtained by the World Jewish Congress (WJC).

The letter, signed and delivered to Israel's justice ministry by Paul B. van Son, first secretary of the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv, requested "an official and legal explanation" as to why Demjanjuk, the retired Ohio autoworker recently acquitted by Israel's supreme court of Nazi war crimes, was still in prison. Mr. Van Son wrote Ruth

Rubin, an official at the Justice Ministry, that he was acting at the request of State Department lawyers. The content of the threeparagraph letter was provided to a reporter Friday by the World Jewish Congress.

They expressed to me concern that the government of Israel may be in violation of the 'specialty rule' of the U.S.-Israel treaty, Mr. Van Son said in the letter. The State Department said Friday that the letter, was unautho-

rised and refused to repudiate its contents.

The WJC said the letter's call for Demjanjuk's release may

have unduly influenced Israeli attorney general Yosef Harish into deciding this week against further prosecutions of the man acquitted of being guard at the Treblinka camp. "It may be that John Demjan-

juk is being released on the basis of a crude deception," WJC Vice-President Kalman Sultanik said of the letter from a first secretary. The State Department said the letter was sent by the U.S.

embassy in Tel Aviv without high-level authorisation. But it added, "although the letter was prepared and sent without the knowledge or approval of officials in Washington, the issues raised in the letter have been the

subject of informal discussions

between our governments for

some time...' While the WJC said the letter appeared to have unduly influenced Mr. Harish, some sources in the Jewish community wondered whether Mr. Harish wanted such a letter to help bolster his controversial decision not to seek further prosecutions of

Demjanjuk. The Israeli supreme court is expected to decide by next week whether Demjanjuk, 73, will be prosecuted on charges that he was a guard at other camps or released - probably to the United States where he is appealing the extradition order that sent him to Israel in 1985.

WJC sources said Thursday that the day before Mr. Harish was to announce his decision the Justice Ministry received a letter from a first secretary at the U.S.

On Friday the WJC released a copy of the letter written by Mr. van Son. It said in part:

"If Mr. Demjanjuk continues to be detained by order of the (Israeli) supreme court beyond the hearing presently scheduled for August 11, I wish to inform you that I have been requested orally by attorneys in the Department of State to ask the Ministry. of Justice for an official and legal explanation of why the ministry does not believe this detention to. be a violation of article 13 of the extradition treaty."

The letter was passed on to the Justice Ministry and was taken into consideration by Mr. Harishin making his decision, the WJE

The Cincinnati-based sixth-U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. ruled last week that Demjanjuk, 🧸 73, should be able to return wh the court investigates his 1986. extradition to Israel. The court said it needs Demianiuk to participate in the investigation.

The court is to hear arguments Sept. 3 about whether the Justice Department withheld informattion Demjanjuk could have used to fight his extradition.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Turks say rebels suffer heavy losses

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish troops inflicted heavy casualties on rebel Kurds in fighting near the Iranian border on Friday, the Anatolia news agency reported. It quoted officials as saying soldiers, warplanes and helicopter gunships struck against members of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) near the town of Yuksekova in Hakkari province. Officials said the operations began after large groups of PKK guerrillas were spotted. It did not say how many PKK fighters were killed. In another clash gendarme commandos killed 14 PKK guerrilias in a gunbattle near the town of Cukurca, also in Hakkari province, security officials said. They said the fighting occurred on Thursday night after rebels raided a gendarmerie post near the Iraqi border. Six commandos were wounded in the fighting.

## Denktash warns EC on Cyprus entry

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash has warned the European Community (EC) that Cyprus' application for full membership of the community is illegal, the Anatolia news agency reported Friday. It said Mr. Denktash stated in a letter to EC Commission President Jacques Delors that the Cypriot bid was unlawful because the Turkish Cypriots had not been consulted. Mr. Denktash, president of the breakaway Turkish republic of northern Cyprus which is recognised only by Turkey, also said U.N.-sponsored talks on reuniting the island would be endangered and its division legalised if the EC accepted Cyprus' membership. Anatolia did not say when the letter was sent. Cyprus has been divided since Turkish troops invaded and occupied the northern two-fifths of 1974 after a short-lived coup backed by the junta then ruling Athens aimed at uniting the island with Greece. The Republic of Cyprus in the south, which is internationally recognised as the sole government, applied for full EC membership on July 3, 1990. EC officials say Cyprus is eligible for membership but negotiations will start once a settlement of the Cyprus problem is

## Dietician jailed for trying to poison food

NICOSIA (R) — A dietician was sentenced to one year in jail Friday after a Cypriot court found her guilty of attempting to poison health foods. Maria Martin. 50, chief dietician at Nicosia hospital, was caught red-handed last January trying to sprinkle acetone, used as a nail polish remover, on foodstuffs in a local supermarket. The reason for her action was to discredit the company which was supplying the supermarket, the court said. The company was competing with that of her husband.

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St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation 637440).	Tel.
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Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. an Orthodox Church Tel. Amman International Church Tel. 652526. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

### WEATHER

Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

Normal summer weather will prevail

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 38, Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent. Aqaba 34 per

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**JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR** 

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### FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5. where it should always be verified. Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

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# elease Crown Prince award winners to start voluntary programme

MAJALI MEETS WITH PLO ENVOY: Prime Minister

Abdul Salam Al Majali Saturday meets with Hakam

Bala'wi, Palestine President Yasser Arafat's envoy, who

briefed the Premier on the results of the latest meeting of the

Palestinian leadership in Tunis. Both sides discussed bilater-

al relations, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's

recent visit to the region and the invitations to the next

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services such as construction

work, camps work, maintenance of schools, opening water canals and dredging others as well as recreational functions like mountain climbing, swimming, diving and other activities.

The Sabila Project, introduced in 1990, encourages university students and other youth to volunteer and interact with the local communities.

Participants in the Sabila activities must be Jordanians between the ages of 17 and 25 willing to carry out voluntary services and raise funds for the Sabila pro-

During their 25-day trip, the participants will hold seminars on Jordan's archaeological sites, the badia region and the role of the Ma'an and Tafileh districts during the Great Arab Revolt led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali.

## Cabinet grants governors new powers, jurisdiction

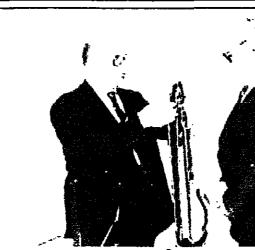
AMMAN (Petra) --- The Cabinet Saturday granted the governors of the country new powers and the jurisdiction of specialised ministers in accordance with the Article Four of the General Management Law.

Information Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar told the press that this decision was taken as part of the government's plans to decentralise government administrations. The plan, Dr. Abu Nowar said, sims to activate the role of local governors and the consultancy and executive councils in the governorates to contribute to meeting the needs of citizens and tackling their problems.

It also aims to facilitate the process of carrying out development projects and plans and reduce bureaucracies at local administrations, he said.

Dr. Abu Nowar added that the decision gives the governors a say in preparing their respective governorates' budgets in cooperation with the ministries of Finance and Planning, particularly in relation to defining the priorities of development projects.

In its meeting, the Cabinet decided also to delegate repre-sentatives of the Ministry of Finance and Royal Jordanian (RJ) to negotiate with the government of Sri Lanka on an agreement exempting the national air carriers of the two countries from



round of Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington. Deputising for His Majesty King Hussein, Dr. Majali also Saturday conferred upon Dr. Maynoun, a member of the Indian parliament and a former minister of science and technology, the Medal of Independence of the First Order. Dr. Maynoun took part in a recent seminar in Amman on the current economic and political developments in India (Petra photo)

# Seminar to take up environmental problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — Discussion of different environmental topics including energy, food, water and waste will be on the programme of a one-day seminar Monday in Amman, organised by the Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution I heavy casale. (JSCEP) and the German Friedorder on Fide rich Naumann Foundation.

d officials a ... Forty participants from the struck againg e Queen Alia Jordan Social Welnear the my fare Fund (QAF) institutions and said the meat centres will attend the event at ere sponed little the JSCF ' premises in Shmeisa-

Organisers said the programme after rebekine the JSCEP, followed by lectures ix commands; on the state of the environment in Tordan, consumers' attitudes towards energy and water saving, food, traffic and waste manage-Also included will be lectures

on population growth and its impact on the environment, agriculture, population growth, food supplies and sources of danger to products, the organisers noted. Participants will also view a

cussions on the various topics on the agenda. Dr. Sager Salem, JSCEP secretary, said in a statement earlier Saturday that water and soil resources in Jordan are being

order to meet the needs of the growing population. Jordan is one of the countries that lacks sufficient water sup-

plies; only 160 cubic metres of water are available: for every individual annually, whereas the actual need is 500 cubic metres. Cultivable land accounts for only six per cent of the total area of Jordan.

Referring to pollutants, Dr. Salem said the growing industrial and tourism sectors, as well as documentary film and hold discommercial and construction activities, coupled with the growth rate have been increasingly polluting the environment, drinking water and cultivable soil.

On water resources, Dr. Salem explained that over-pumping has Duleil, Azraq and Jordan Valley areas either dry or contaminated.

Noting that pollutants have been leaking into the aquifers via

cess pools, Dr. Salem said the pollution of underground and surface water continues unahated.

Haphazard construction projects and the encroachment of buildings and factories on cultivable land is no less dangerous to the environment than water contamination, Dr. Salem main-

Adding that numerous other environmental problems are currently facing the Kingdom, Dr. Salem said Jordan suffers from the use of pesticides which contaminate agricultural crops as well as what to do with various waste, among other difficulties.

Dr. Salem recommended that the national strategy on the protection of the environment which was announced last year should form a framework for the government's programmes in its drive to safeguard the environment in Jor-

# Unemployment insurance can never be realised, says SSC official

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN - Although included in categories covered by the Social Security Corpora-

tion (SSC) Law, unemployment insurance can never be realised, neither at this stage nor in the foreseeable future, according to SSC Director General Mohammad Saleh Hourani.

dropped from the SSC agenda since it never acquired the approval of the SSC board of directors, Dr. Hourani told the Jordan Times Saturday.

This subject has been long

Workers and employers, as well as the government, are all represented on the SSC board. The former reject the idea of insuring people against unemployment and view such a policy as impractical and impracnicable, Dr. Hourani said.

Neither workers nor employers are willing to sacrifice any portion of their income to create a fund which would make payments to the growing number of unemployed people in Jordan, he added.

Furthermore, the SSC can in

no way implement a compre-hensive health scheme for the estimated 320,000 workers covered by the SSC, since such a practice would inevitably cost JD65 million, Dr. Hourani maintained. He said neither the workers

nor the employers are willing to give up an overall sum corresponding to 16 per cent of total salaries paid to the work-

But should they provide JD65 million, the SSC would be willing to carry out the project, Dr. Hourani said.

According to the SSC offi-cial, introducing unemployment insurance or a national health scheme in Jordan at this stage is almost impossible.

Advanced nations, he maintained, took at least a hundred years to apply such schemes which, he added, are causing an "economic headache" in these countries.

So far some 8,000 firms in Jordan are covered by the SSC which has already paid a total of JD52,656,163 in pensions to retired workers, Dr. Hourani explained.

In addition, he said, the SSC has paid a total of JD8,176,716 in lump sum payments and compensation for occupational injuries.

Dr. Hourani told a meeting of directors of various SSC branches here last Thursday that the SSC was granting them more powers to help decentralise its activities.

He said that branch directors, for example, were now authorised to sign cheques up to JD10,000. He urged the directors to take extra care in collecting

SSC monthly subscriptions. Under the SSC law, firms employing five or more persons must pay into the SSC programme.

In addition a Jordanian living here or abroad can be included in the SSC plan provided he or she ensures continuous payment of subscription premiums.

# Red Cross, Red Crescent youth to attend camp

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A week-long youth camp aimed at strengthening ties between Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in the world will be launched today (Sunday) at Amman's Crown Hotel, according to Raghad Al Khoja, assistant general secretary of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS).

Dr. Al Khoja said the camp, which is organised by JNRCS, will bring together about 100 youth representing Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, Austria, Britain, Canada, DeGreece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands and Spain, in addition to

The camp will be officially opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan, and participants will be introduced to the camp staff and briefed on their upcoming schedule. They will also hear a lecture on the birth of the Red Cross/Red Crescent movements by JNRCS President Mohammad Al Hadid.

During the week Dr. Fawwaz Tougan will present a lecture on "Jordan's Culture and History." Also Tore Svenning, head of delegation in Amman of the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRCRCS) and Michel Ducnmark, Finland, Germany, raux, head of the International

Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Jordan will deliver two separate presentations on the objectives and activities of their organisations.

On Thursday, Dr. Ahmad Abu Oura, former chairman of standing commission of the IFRCRCS and former president of JNRCS will speak on the International Humanitarian Law.

Dr. Al Khoja told the Jordan Times that the campers will see a film on relief operations offered by the JNRCS to evacuees from Kuwait and other Gulf countries during the 1990 crisis. The following day, she said, they will visit the Azraq camp that had been set up for evacuees during the

Trips to Je:ash and Petra are also part of the week's schedule. One day will be devoted to national ceremonies, wherein whatever activities the participants wish to introduce from their countries and representing their national societies will be display-

The group will also visit INRCS hospitals, the blood bank, laboratories and sewing and embroidery centres located in the society's headquarters.

Organisers hope that the young participants will come away from this experience with a better appreciation of international humanitarian values and the role played by Jordanian youth in this

# Jerusalem Festival said to raise people's emotions

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Around 500 people a day have attended the Jerusalem Festival in Jabal Amman, opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Sumaya Bint Al Hassan, at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation last Sunday and which has been heralded by its organisers as an overwhelming

Hani Jaber, co-ordinator of the festival organised by Al Wihdat Jub, spoke to the Jordan Times about the goals of the event.

"The aim is to promote a global idea of creativity through displays of art, architecture and other cultural aspects of Palestine and Jordan," he said.

Although the participating artists are from all over the Fertile Crescent, the display is centred on Jerusalem. Mr. Jaber believes that this is a vital aspect. "Basing the exhibition around

Jerusalem has had an emotional effect on people," he commented. "It helps them overcome the Israeli attempts to marginalise them from their homeland." The festival boasts an impress-

ively varied collection of artworks. Although an underlying theme reflecting the horrors of modern war and civil strife is prevalent in almost all of the pieces, save the delightful David Roberts lithographs of Palestine in the nineteenth century and the occasional print of Jerusalem itself, the artists, chosen by the Writers Association, tackle the

issue in a diverse selection of

long-faced Palestinians suffering under the occupation is simplistic but shocking, and contrasts well with Ali Al Mimar's macabre distortion of the Mona Lisa that faces it.

The portrait of a group of

Other notable pieces include a profound portrayal of the Palestinian frustration and anger and the poignant work entitled "Return to Jerusalem.' It did, however, appear some-

what paradoxical that in an exhibition which attempts to express the individuality of Arab culture, the collection of paintings by one artist was noticeably inspired by Picasso.

The large display of dresses was of particular interest, featuring a collection of some of the finest garments from regions in Jordan and Palestine.

Each evening at 8 o'clock, the small cinema inside the Shoman Foundation building offers a variety of historical films, including a Russian account of the 1905 revolution, a portrayal of life in pre-perestroika, Bulgaria and a chronology of the Palestinian people over the last thousand

During Mr. Jaber's discussion with the Jordan Times, he enthusiastically decribed the songs of liberty and freedom that were to be sung by the popular Lebanese artist Julia Butros. But the concert, which was due to take place at the Roman Amphitheatre, in downtown Amman, has been cancelled, possibly to be rearranged at a different venue. The festival is open from 10-

6:30 and will run until the end of

## **HOME NEWS IN BRIEF**

## King congratulates India, Korea

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma congratulating him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on his country's independence day. King Hussein wished Mr. Sharma good health and happiness and the Indian people further progress and prosperity. The King sent a similar cable to South Korean President Kim Yong Sam congratulating him on his country's national day.

### NHF to help Sweimeh

AMMAN (J.T.) — As part of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), quality of Life Programme, NHF staff today will join (Sunday) residents of Sweimeh village by the Dead Sea in a village sprucing up campaign. In line with the programmes' objectives of environmental improvement and bettering the living and healtfh conditions of citizens in rural areas of the Kingdom, the campaign involves painting several homes in the villag.e It is hoped that this join effort will enhance the spirit of voluntarism among the villagers, promote self reliance, and encourage them to utilise their capabilities in improving their conditions, said an NHF statement released Saturday. Several local firms and institutions donated the paints for this activity, the statement added.

### Election ads are put on hold

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar Saturday called on the Jordanian mass media and newspapers to refrain from publishing election advertisements for citizens planning to run as candidates in the upcoming parliamentary elections set for Nov. 8, saying the media can cary ads and commercials for candidates when the official nomination period starts. Dr. Abu Nowar told reporters that Article 60 of the Lower House of Parliament Election Law. No. 22 of 1966, prohibits carrying out any promotion campaign for candidates ahead of the start of the official nomination period, which usually lasts until the day preceeding election

### Japanese official arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) - The director of the first Middle East division at the Japanese Foreign Ministry, Akio Tanaka, arrived in Amman Saturday on a three-day official visit to Jordan. Mr. Tanaka will hold talks with senior officials here on Jordanian-Japanese relations, particularly in economic, tourism and technical fields. He will also discuss with Jordanian officials political lissues of common interest.

### Ministry to build 4 new schools

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) - The Ministry of Education will build four new primary schools in the northern Jordan Valley region. These will be set up in Sufra, Kreimeh, Wadi Yabis and Shuneh. The ministry said the schools are needed to meet the growing number of students in these

### Team leaves for U.S. to buy wheat

AMMAN (Petra) - A delegation representing the Ministry of Supply Saturday left for the U.S. at the invitation of the U.S. Wheat Council. Ministry Secretary General Mustafa Khleifat. who is heading the delegation, said the team will tour wheat production and storage facilities and test laboratories during its two-week visit. It will also meet with officials from the wheat council and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The delegation is also expected to sign contracts to purchase 200,000 tonnes of American wheat worth \$30 million.

### Gharaibeh meets with visiting university official

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh Saturday received the director of planning and development at the United Nations University (UNU) and discussed with him scopes of cooperation between the University of Jordan and the UNU. The two officials also discussed the prospect of the University of Jordan participating in a training project which the UNU intends to implement in the Middle East region, entitled "The Promising Leadership Programme." The visiting UNU offi-cial also was received by University Vice President Mohammad Al Maqusi who briefed him on the university's development, academic programmes and its role in serving the society. Dr. Magusi said at the meeting that the university in the future aims to focus more on higher studies and on preparing graduates to compete in the labour markets of the Middle East.

### JD15,000 in jewellery stolen

AMMAN (J.T.) — According to a report in the local press, JD15,000 worth of jewellery was stolen from the residence of a Jordanian citizen living in Amman. The report in Sawt Al Shaab Saturday said that a 57-year-old man reported to the police that he was away from his house when the jewellery pieces, including gold and diamonds were stolen. The report quoted the police as aying that the investigations into the case were continuing, but the burglar seems to have entered by the kitchen door which was left open. The report identified the man as A. Kh. Y.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### **EXHIBITIONS**

- Eshbelia Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.
- ★ Exhibition of a new collection of art works by Princess Wijdan Ali at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter. Continental.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Hashemite Paintings" by Jordanian artist Iyad Al Masri at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Cultural Centre. ★ Exhibition by Iraqi artists Mohammad Hussein Judi and Shawkat Al Alousi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- JERUSALEM FESTIVAL ☆ Exhibition of paintings, posters, Palestinian costumes, books
  and other items on the Holy City of Jerusalem at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- Exhibition of books on various subjects at Al Hashimieh Plaza, in downtown Amman.
- ☆ Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Poetry of the Intifada -Space and Structure" by Hatem Al Saker at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 6.30 p.m.
- ☆ Concert by Syrian singer Amal Arafeh at the Roman Amphitheatre, downtown Amman at 8.30 p.m.



### **JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES** CO LTD

ANNOUNCES THE INVITATION TO TENDER NO. 30F/93

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No.

30F/93 (for the supply of chemicals, glassware

and lab. instruments). The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 2:00 p.m. local time, Monday, 6-9-93. Application for documents should be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of JD 30 for each set of tender

The closing date for submitting tenders is 12:00 hours local time, Monday, Sept. 13, 1993.

> Thabet Al Taher **Managing Director**

## Jordan holding 10 for plot against King

(Continued from page 1) and authorities recently told us that he had been because he is a dangerous man.

Mr. Jidi told the AP his son is a devout Muslim, but denied that he belonged to an Islamic radical

Mr. Abu Rushteh, a 50-year-

old civil engineer and the group's

on May 20. They also have not been

political activities. After the arrests at Mu'ta, the two ILP leaders were captured. could face the death sentence but relatives say they expect that

spokesman, and Mr. Khawaldeh. a senior party member, were arrested at their homes in Zarqa

charged. But officials have said they were suspected of illegal If convicted the detainees

King Hussein would reprieve

them, as he has done on similar occasions in the past. Mr. Abu Rushteh's wife Umm Yassin said she last visited her

him in good spirits. The Jordan Bar Association has written to the prime minister's office and to the interior and justice ministries seeking details on the arrests but it has not received official replies.

husband in early July and found-

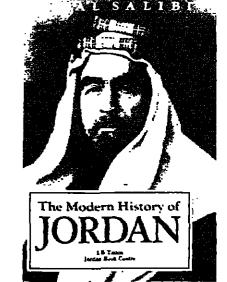
### THE MODERN HISTORY OF **JORDAN**

Dr. Kamal Salibi

Published by: I.B. Taurus, U.K.

Jordan Book Centre, Amman,

H.K. Jordan



In this remarkable political history of Jordan, Kamal Salibi traces the transformation of the nation from the sparsely populated, extremely poor Emirate of Trasjordan, to a present day most prosperous and stable of Middle Eastern countries, and a major player in the region's politics. A great book about the history of a great nation.

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

# Fewer laws, freer views

THERE IS a political adage in western democracies that says that the least government is the best government. A corollary of this proposition is the view that deregulation to

the optimum possible is the safest way to full democracy. We in Jordan should make every effort to learn from other democracies and emulate at least the positive features of their political processes. One of the main aims of this exercise is to enshrine, inter alia, pluralism and freedom of the press in our new national psyche.

On pluralism, we may have gone just a bit too far when 20 political parties, most of which are hardly distinguishable from one another, were licensed in the span of a few months. As for the freedom of thought, we seem to stumble every time we make another attempt to bolster our mass media as a cornerstone for our fledgling democracy.

The announcement Friday by the minister of information, Dr. Ma'an Abu Nowar, that he is proposing yet another regulatory regime for the work of Jordanian journalists comes as a fitting example of how our officialdom perceives the attainment of perfection for the press through laws and more laws. In suggesting that the profession requires a code of conduct over and above the proliferating laws and regulations on the same subject, he is raising the question of what the legal status of any such code would be. Will it have the effect of law? And, if so, how is it going to be implemented? If the intention is to the contrary, the question that remains is bow will it be given effect and by whom. Given the fact that we already have laws on "press and publications" and a law on the "Press Association" that cover practically all the dimensions of the intended code, there appears to be little justification for elaborating on the same subject within the context of a code as such. Besides, we are not aware of one truly democratic country that has a similar code over and above any legislation it might have on the press. In terms of substance, there may be some other problems related to the proposal. In his submission in favour of the draft code, the minister of information drew heavily on the Constitution, on the laws on publications and of the Press Association and on the National Charter. While we do not differ with the proposition that these laws may serve as the basis for codifying new guidelines for journalists and newspapers in the country, we are not so sure that all these four pillars are necessarily compatible with one another. In all honesty, we believe that we have already enough guidelines on freedom of the press. The problem is not the absence of codes or regulations, but the lack of enlightened interpretation of this existing body of

As the American journalist Joseph Pulitzer once put it: "Our country and its press will rise or fall together. An able, disinterested, public spirited press with trained intelligence to know the right and courage to do it can preserve that public virtue without which popular government is a sham and mockery. A cynical, mercenary press will produce in time a people as base as itself. The power to mould the future will be in the hands of the journalists of

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This is the only kind of code of conduct for the press that we may need. To achieve this noble objective, however, more pressing measures need to be introduced to elevate newspapers and the people who man them to a higher level of professionalism. This is where we need to concentrate our energies. Then the objectives of the proposed code of honour would have a better chance of fulfillment.

## **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

COMMENTING ON the invitation issued to the Arab parties to take part in the 11th round of the Middle East peace process, Al Ra'i daily said that nobody knows exactly when the talks will end and when the Israelis are going to succumb to the will of the world community and implement U.N. resolutions. The paper said that there is little chance that the 11th round, the 12th or others to follow will achieve any progress now that almost two years have passed and no progress has been achieved towards a settlement. Even the American-Arab talks and the American-Israeli talks, which are meant to bring the views closer together, are taking more time than the peace negotiations themselves, said the paper. Despite consultations, visits by U.S. officials and the lapse of 10 rounds of talks, no step has been made towards the implementation of U.N. resolutions on which these negotiations are based, the paper added. The lack of progress is mainly due to the fact that neither the U.S. administration nor the Israelis are willing to move forward and bring about a lasting settlement that would ensure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab lands, said the paper. It added that Arab parties are continually buying themselves with visits by U.S. officials, watching the Palestinians try to patch up differences regarding the peace negotiations or with other matters that can by no means contribute towards a settlement, instead of uniting their stands by word and deed and confront Washington.

THE INVITATION to the Arabs to take part in the 11th round of the Middle East talks coincides with a feverish escalation, on the part of Israel, of building settlements in the occupied Arab territories, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday. The paper said that Israel is intent on Judaising the city of Jerusalem and the Arab lands of Palestine, to impose a de factor situation on the Arabs. There is nothing in Israel's acts and words that indicates the least intention of reaching a lasting peace with the Arab states and with the Palestinians, said the daily. By refusing to implement the U.N. resolutions, by rejecting the Arab demand of exchange of land for peace and by continuing to build settlements for Jewish immigrants. Israel is stelling the world community that it disregaros its resolutions, said the paper. It is impossible for anyone, even the optimists, to see any light at the end of the dark tunnels in view of Israel's intransigent stand and its refusal to comply with U.N. resolutions, added the daily. The paper said that progress at the Arab-Israeli negotiations depends on the U.S. administra .n because it is the sponsor of the talks and it has pledged to achieve peace and security based on U.N. resolutions.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

# Foreign investment fails to take off

After 40 years and a chain of laws to encourage investments in the country, mainly through costly exemptions of taxes, Arab and foreign investments failed to gain momentum. The exemptions cost the treasury tens of millions of dinar with nothing in return. The law was not the major motivation behind any investment decision, as a potential investor may look into the taxation aspect, but his main worry is the financial feasibility of the project and whether or not it will make profits at all.

I have reason to believe that most projects which benefited from the law of encouraging investment and enjoyed the excessive exemptions from taxes on profits were to take place any way, even if there were no law to encourage investments and exempt them from paying income tax

and other levies and fees for a long period. My evidence to this assertion is that Arab capital contribution to capital formation in Jordan was between seven and nine per cent only. Foreign capital contributed no more than one per cent of the capital formation in the country. Most, if not all, of the Arab and foreign investments were in activities that did not benefit from the law and its generous exemptions.

If the above claim is valid, the tax exemptions should be reduced gradually until the present law of encouraging investments is abolished altogether without, of course, jeopardising the exemptions already granted to investors under the current law, the purpose being the mainte-nance of public confidence and the avoidance of surprises which may disturb the investment cli-

The mere fact that a country grants lavish exemptions to investors is counterproductive, because it suggests that either the regular taxes are excessive or the potential investments in certain sectors are not feasible and cannot generate sufficient profits.

In the past, officials of the Ministry of Industry observed that the law encouraging investment was not effective and practically failed to attract any meaningful Arab or foreign investment, but their response was to amend the law, increase exemptions and extend their duration. It is high time to make the opposite and admit that the law

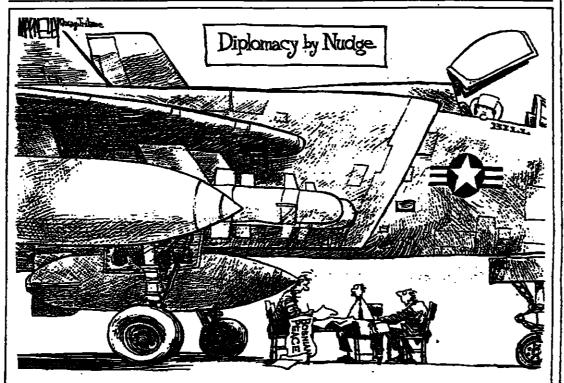
is not, and could not, be effective and achieve its objectives and therefore should be abandoned as an approach to encourage investments. In this manner we shall cut down the losses of the treasury, and leave investments to be carried out on the bases of their economic merit rather than distorting investment decisions by introducing discriminating exemptions, granted on selective

Going too far in granting tax exemptions to newly approved projects tends to push the treasury too far in overtaxing regular projects in order to make up for the unnecessary loss. The cancellation of all exemptions, not retroactively though, will allow the treasury to be gentler in the imposition of income taxes on companies. The tax burden will thus be spread over a wider

Under the current law you can find two identical factories of, say, furniture competing in the same market, with one required to pay 40 per cent of its profits as income tax, while the lucky other is not required to contribute a penny.

It is worth mentioning in this context that the present value of total Arab investments abroad was estimated at \$670 billion, of which only \$26 billion, or four per cent, were invested within the Arab World.

Jordan's share of Arab investments is less than one per cent of Arab investments within the Arab World, or 0.04 per cent of all Arab capital invested abroad. We have got nothing to lose.



# **Arms flow to Mideast** tops \$50 billion in 3 years Said the Arms Control Asso- the Saudi F-15 order would pre-

By Charles J. Hanley The Associated Press

AFTER THE Gulf war, they "took the pledge." But the big powers, arms purveyors to the world, still can't seem to stop pouring high-priced weapons into the explosive Middle East.

In a widening stream that keeps assembly lines rolling from Omsk to Oklahoma, weapons exporters have shipped or agreed to ship more than \$50 billion in heavy armaments to the region in the three years since Iraq invaded Kuwait, new calculations show.

The U.N. Conventional Arms Register, whose 1992 listings will soon be made public, confirms that the United States and four other key producing nations delivered at least 85 warplanes and 521 tanks and other armoured vehicles to Mideast customers last

Pending deals far outweigh those. The expected \$28 billion to \$30 billion in U.S. foreign military sales for this fiscal year is the biggest annual total ever, and most is ticketed for Saudi Arabia. Kuwait, Israel and other Mideast

Two years ago, it looked like the regional weapons bazzar might be folding some of its tents. After the war with Iraq, whose military muscle grew on huge weapons purchases in the 1980s, then-President Bush told Congress: "It would be tragic if the nations of the Middle East and Gulf were now, in the wake of war, to embark on a new arms

Negotiations began among the five permanent U.N. Security Council members — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France — to scale back milit-

By late 1991, the five, the world's biggest weapons expor-ters, had pledged to avoid "destabilising" Mideast arms deals a vague commitment to restraint in addition to the flat U.N. ban on weapons sales to Iraq.

But by late 1992 the talks had broken down. The flow of

armour and air power did not. In a new estimate, the Arms Control Association, a private Washington think tank, calculates U.S. military export agreements for the Mideast since August 1990 have totalled \$38.8 billion. As for other suppliers, congressional research service estimates indicate non-U.S. military sales in the Mideast approached \$20 billion for 1990-

numbers are a legacy of the Gulf in St. Louis and Tulsa, Okia suppliers in the past to come to grips with the problem of an cutbacks in their Mideast arms. war and the inability of the big unconstrained flow of arms to the sales, already stunted by tough

Some current deals; U.S.-built F-15 warplanes, mostly advanced fighter-bomber models, for \$8.2 billion, and 48 British Tornado bombers for \$7.5 bil-

- The United Arab Emirates signed off on a \$3.5 billion deal for 390 Leclerc tanks from

- Iran ordered 500 of Russia's Workhorse T-72 tanks, reports trol policy in the coming weeks. the authoritative Stockholm International Peace Research Insti-

Russia also sold the Iranians port any Clinton proposal for two kilo-class patrol submarines, making Iran the first Gulf nation with undersea power.

The arms race is many-sided. Fear of Iran is cited for a Saudi Israel, and so on.

Some in the region are wor-

"The Middle East is a powder keg, and to put more weapons for Mideast restraint seems ininto it will add to the horror," Kamel Abu Jaber, who has just stepped down as Jordan's foreign minister, told an interviewer.

ciation's Lee Feinstein: "These serve 7,000 of its aerospace jobs

The British and French show

American competition. Even Britain's opposition — Saudi Arabia is buying 72

Labour Party accepts the jobsS.-built F-15 warplanes, mostly

producing Mideast deals. "We'd like to see the five-power talks. continue, but we also wish to see that the British armaments industry is able to compete on a level playing field," said Josh Arnold Forster, a Labour defence analyst

In Washington, the Clinton administration is expected to issue a comprehensive arms con-Rep. Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said he would sup-

limits on Middle East sales. "In every sale you can come forward with a good reason for it: you need the business, the jobs. And the buyer can make a strong buildup, Saudi purchases are national security argument," Mr. used to justify Israeli arms deals. Hamilton said. "But the cumula-Syria scrambles to keep up with tive impact is that the arms keep pouring out, and the next wars, wherever, will be of higher lettral-

> Clinton administration support certain, however.

In last year's presidential campaign, Mr. Clinton did endorse the idea of reining in arms sales For the supplier nations, the via negotiations. But he also motive, increasingly, is pure eco- backed the big F-15 sale.

Said one knowledgeable State Tanks exported from the Omsk Department source, speaking on arsenal, for example, bring in condition he not be named: "I desperately needed hard currency wouldn't be surprised if the new for dollar-poor Russia. And policy skirts the whole Mideas McDonnell-Douglas Corp. said issue."

### **LETTERS**

## The Israeli port where U.S. dollars sink

To the Editor:

As a member of the Council for the National Interest (CNI), you share, I know, my frustration and anger each time the Israeli government makes unreasonable demands on America. This is

I am writing to give you some disturbing and little known facts about the newest scheme devised by the Israeli government to extort even more money from U.S. taxpayers.

This scheme will possibly destroy thousands of American jobs, ieopardise the economic health of the U.S. shipbuilding industry, undermine U.S.-Arab relations and, worst of all, endanger the lives of U.S. servicemen and their families.

In fact, the price tag is so exorbitant that the package is being presented to Congress in increments to conceal the cost of the entire project. Here is exactly what is happening.

As a desperate move to pump up Israel's sagging socialist economy, the Rabin government devised a massive public works programme to pour countless millions of U.S. dollars into Israel

each year (\$57 million the first year).

This shameless boundoggle calls for the expansion and improvement of the existing naval port at Haifa with the ultimate objective of "home-porting" the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

It would require enormous expenditures of U.S. money to pay for the construction of schools, housing, hospitals and other facilities for the use of U.S. military personnel and their families. I don't have to tell you that home-porting at Haifa has nothing to do with what is best for America's interests in the Middle East. But it has everything to do with what is best for Israel.

Of course the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Israeli government's official U.S. lobby, has sprung into action to sell this scheme to Congress. As part of AIPAC's public relations strategy to gain support for home-porting, the Israeli government plans to present the project as a magnanimous gesture of goodwill towards the United States.

According to the AIPAC script, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

will tell Americans how he is willing to have his country endure considerable inconvenience while the harbour is being upgraded. Mr. Rabin will claim that he is letting us build his new harbour to advance the national security interests of the United States.

But nothing could be further from the truth. As I mentioned earlier, from Israel's standpoint, home-porting at Haifa is nothing more than a transparent scheme designed to pump up the Israeli

And that is not the worst of it. Israel also wants U.S. military forces to be highly visible on its shores. This is nothing less than a vengeful ploy which could cause a deep rift in U.S.-Arab

The Arab states would view home-porting at Haifa as further evidence of an intimate military alliance between the U.S. and their antagonist Israel aimed at them and which would be

dangerous to their security!
In any armed conflict in the Middle East, Israel would likely to be a prime target. Our military personnel would be extremely vulnerable in the event of a war.

In fact, home-porting at Haifa is tantamount to signing the death certificates for our soldiers and their families assigned to the

I should also point out that high ranking U.S. naval officials admit the selection of Haifa does not respond to military realities

and requirements. It's just a bad idea. If you are as disturbed as I am about the consequences of home-porting at Haifa, I urge you to join with CNI to expose this travesty for what it really is — a drain on the U.S. taxpayer.

As you can see, the implications of this project are staggering not only in terms of cost and lost American jobs but also in the

potential danger to American servicemen. This brings me to the These are difficult times for Americans. We are watching our taxes go up while social security and other entitlements are threatened to be cut.

Adding insult to injury, we are also seeing massive U.S. military cutbacks. Even major U.S. naval bases in Charleston, S.C. and San Diego, California have been threatened.

When Americans are losing jobs because of military cutbacks, this is no time to let the Israeli government get away with another free ride on American taxpayers.

Paul Findley, Chairman CNI, Washington D. C.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as uself. Manual and preferably address as uself. preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of amused a

# The world reels in the backwash of the cold war

gures and the American govern-

PARIS - With the end of the cold war, the world passed from a Copernican to a post-Newtonian political universe. Before, the United States and the Soviet Union provided the fixed political points about which other nations revolved. Since their gravitational force has waned or been withdrawn, the international system's order has been lost, sending individual nations and parties tumbling into unforeseen and unpre-dictable orbits.

So long as the United States and the Soviet Union dominated the scene, other states and even their political party systems func-tioned within the fields of force radiating from Moscow and Washington. Now theirs is a situation of disorientation, erratic in its elements and frequently

First to go was what had been the quasi-imperial system in Eastern Europe, latterly and disastrously extended to Afghanis-

Next to go were the minor clients on both sides of the ideological line, who were simply, or not so simply, abandoned: Cubans, Sandinistas, the PLO. but also contras, UNITA fighters in Angola, the Mujahedeen in Afghanistan. They had served their purpose and now were on

The result of that today is Cuba's economic ruin; the drift of abandoned soldiers on both sides of the Nicaraguan war into banditism; ideological justification stripped from what had always been an ugly power struggle in Angola; Mujahedeen sales of Stinger missiles on the international black market; radicalised Muslims in Beirut, Cairo, Rabat

and Newark, New Jersey. And now the western govern-

imploding.

The political force that ruled the signing of the Japanese-U.S. security treaty in 1951 until last week was the collaborative creation of con-

ment. It now has been replaced. When the Korean war broke out, Washington feared that the pacifist constitution that General

Douglas MacArthur had imposed upon Japan might send the country towards a neutralist renunciation of international power, benefiting the Soviet Union and communist China. Japan's 1974 elections had favoured the Social Democratic Party, which also enjoyed the sympathy of the generally liberal-minded occupation authorities in the war's immediate aftermath, concerned about a revival of Japanese militarism.

ern allies; the Italians themselves auxiliaries of both. Postwar Italy submitted to what its NATO allies expected of it. The CIA intervened in the 1948 elections, establishing enduring alliances with party and labour groups. The Communist Party was, and remained, financed and controlled by Moscow. The Italians lived a form of internalised repression of their recognition of the external forces acting upon them, against which they felt themselves powerless. The immobilisation of political life during the cold war was thus not only endured but willed, if resentfully.

"What happens now? It is logical to think that the major industrial states — all of them, except for Japan, still North American or West European — will be the suns and nearby stars as new orbits of power and ambition are eventually established. They will continue to control the material resources of power. It is entirely possible - indeed it has begun to happen - that violence will decide the process by which the new system emerges.

By 1949, with the cold war in Europe at full blast, and China in the hands of the communists, the Social Democrats had lost their position, and by 1951 the government was firmly in conservative hands, where it has since remained. The conservative parties that later merged as the Liberal Democratic Party deliberately ments forged by the cold war are made themselves America's political client, and were seen to be

The postwar system is being destroyed in Italy - another implosion. After Mussolini's fall in 1943, Italy became a battlegservative Japanese political fi- round for Germans and the west-

The explosion of terrorism in the 1970s was part of the cost Italy had to pay. So was the corruption of political society. What began in a pliant accommodation to political fortune ended not only in terror but in crime, the three eventually combining so that proclaimed revolutionaries collaborated in civil crime, and criminal organisations committed political crimes — of which the bombings in Florence, Milan and Rome in recent days are the latest desperate man-

The European Community has been deeply disoriented by the

ity before the crisis in Yugoslavia is directly attributable to the fact that the United States failed to tell the Europeans what to do. Even now, more than a year after that crisis began, the West Euro-peans — who include the third, fourth and fifth most powerful industrial and military powers on earth — are still incapable of an effective common policy on the Bosnian endgame, or one to deal with the conflicts plainly threatened on Serbia's other borders, and in Kosovo, and those which may develop from ethnic and nationalist conflict elsewhere in Eastern Europe.

end of the cold war. Its immobil-

The collapse of the geopolitical structure is further complicated by the Clinton administration's considered decision to reduce America's world engagement. The Reagan and Bush administrations' effort to get other countries to finance American foreign and military policies in the Gulf and in Central America already had amounted to an abdication of America's leadership role.

What happens now? It is logical to think that the major industrial states - all of them, except for Japan, still North American or West European - will be the suns and nearby stars as new orbits of power and ambition are eventually established. They will continue to control the material resources of power. It is entirely possible - indeed it has begun to happen - that violence will decide the process by which the new system emerges.

But material power is not everything. The will to power counts, and the willingness to sacrifice. There is Islamic fundamentalist power today, Serbian power. There may come to be a reconstituted Russian power.

One should make no mistake about the difficulties to come. When international systems break down, a time of troubles follows. We have only entered ours - International Herald Tri-

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By Malcolm Ritter The Associated Press NEW YORK - After poring over statistics on Playboy playmates and scrutinising the spouses of identical twins, psychologists are offering two new ideas about how people choose their mates. As a first impression, one new

study says, men are attracted by the lower half of a woman's hourglass figure.

And when it comes down to the final choice, the second study says, the selection process is surprisingly random,

The research is the latest in a longstanding effort to figure out how men and women choose each other for marriage. Prior studies have found some

general trends. People tend to marry others who are at similar to themselves in such areas as intelligence, political values, religion, age and ethnnicity, for ex-If such findings seem to stacken

the sweet mystery of it all, keep in mind that prominent mating researcher David Buss of the University of Michigan says no theory can predict just who a given individual will marry. For men, anyway, one impor-

tant first enticement may be women whose waistlines are small when compared to their hips, Devendra Singh of the University of Texas at Austin suggests in the August issue of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

That may not surprise many laymen, but Mr. Buss called the findings important because the idea had not been demonstrated

Mr. Singh said the attractiveness of a low ratio of waist to hip measurements probably began as a way for early humans to assess a woman's fitness to produce and rear children. Research has linked low ratios to good health and reproductive capability, he said. And even in a culture whose

icons of female beauty have ranged from the voluptuous to twiggy, the attractivenes of a low waist-to-hip ratio has endured. Mr. Singh says.

He found that although women in Playboy centrefolds and Miss America winners have become thinner through the decades, their waist-to-hip ratios have barely budged. And his surveys of men and women show that lower waist-to-hip ratios in women are more attractive than higher ones.

In the other mating study, in the July issue of the same journal, David Lykken and Auke Tellegen of the University of Minnesota propose that although mateseeking people choose from a field broadly similar to themselves, the final choice is surprisingly random. That might surprise people

who can think of good reasons they chose their mates. But Mr. Lykken sees that as rationalising. One thing about human na-

ture is that you can't tolerate a feeling that doesn't seem to have any legitimate cause," he said. "You invent a cause for it. If the feeling is one of desperate infatuation with Sue, then the reasons why any right-minded young man should be desperately infatuated with Sue flood to the mind. I think the infatuation

comes first, and the reasons come Mr. Lykken and Mr. Tellegen surveyed middle-aged identical twins and their spouses, and they proposed the randomness idea after finding no evidence that

people use any set of criteria to

How do people choose their mates?

choose a mate

If they did, the researchers reasoned, identical twins who grew up together, having identicgenes and very similar childhoods, should share nearly the same criteria and so choose highsimilar spouses.

But they found that spouses of twin pairs in their study were not esoccially alike. They also found that twins did not consistently approve of their sibling's choice mate, contrary to what one might expect if the two twins were using similar selection criteria.

The spouses also failed to report any consistent attraction toward their spouse's identical

Mr. Buss, however, said he believes the twin work fails to provide very strong evidence for the conclusion that so much of mating is random. It overlooks some research on influences over mate choice and does not test adequately theories about how people pair off, he said. He also said it has some methodological

Mr. Lykken defended the work, but said other scientists should try their own experiments to see if they support or refute the

Mr. Lykken said his own rule "you should never believe a new result, especially if it's interesting, until it has been reolicated - preferably from somebody who doesn't believe it."

How the researchers arrived at their findings:

Devendra Singh of the University of Texas at Austin examined body measurements for women in Playboy centrefolds for 1955 to 1965 and 1976 to 1990 the vital states were not published during the intervening years and found that even though the women became more slender, their waist-to-hip ratio changed only slightly, from .68 to .71.

Similarly, although Miss America winners also became more slender from 1923 to 1987, their waist-to-hip ratio was little changed, dipping from .72 to .69, he found.

He also asked 116 white men, ages 18 to 22, to study line drawings of 12 women who were either overweight, underweight or of normal weight and who had waist-to-hip ratios of .7, .8, .9 or 1. in all three weight categories, figures with lower ratios were rated as more attractive than those with higher ones.

Similar results appeared in a study with 89 older white men. ages 25 to 85, another study with white women from ages 18 to 78. and still another with young blacks of both genders, Mr. Singh said. All those studies involved Americans, and if a low ratio is truly a basic human enticement it should also appear alluring in future studies with other cultures,

he said. David Lykken and Auke Tellegen of the University of Minnesota found that when the spouses of 152 pairs of identical twins were compared on 74 mostly psychological traits, they were not much more alike than random pairs of same-sex partici-

pants in the study. In another survey, 288 identical twins were asked what they had initially thought of their siblings' choice of mate. Although 39 per cent of identical twins said they could have fallen for their sibling's spouse or that they "really liked" him or her, 38 per cent said they would not have chosen that soouse or would have rather stayed single that marry that per-

# Sex, lies, drugs and shame — the unraveling of a

major gang prosecution

By Sharon Cohen The Associated Press

CHICAGO - Two former benchmen in the city's most notorious gang are seen snorting heroin. Both are prison inmates at the time - and government wit-

Another ex-gang leader testi-fies he had sex with his wife about five times while in federal custody - and in government offices.

These startling disclosures of sex and drugs involving the El Rukns street gang have turned one of the most successful criminal prosecutions ever in Chicago into one of the biggest embarrassments — and biggest potential scandals - for the federal government.

A six-year probe of the drugdealing gang that led to 53 convictions or guilty pleas is unraveling. Two federal judges in June ordered new trials for six El Rukns or associates, saying the U.S. attorney's office and others concealed evidence that gang members took drugs, had sex and were given special favours while government witnesses. A third judge is hearing similar charges and more convictions are likely to be challenged.

"They were on a mission to clean up the El Rukns. Anything justified the ends," defence Lawyer Richard Kling said of the government. "It was 'we're the good guys, they're the bad guys, we can do whatever we need to do in order to get them'."

"They also argued they put them behind bars and stopped their criminality. But they didn't, did they?" asked Peter Schmiedel, another lawyer whose client won retrial. "It's one thing to admit to a life of crime on the street, it's another thing to admit crimes... while in custody and the government allowing it to occur.' Mr. Schmiedel argues the ac-

cused were denied a fair trial because defence attorneys didn't know - and couldn't tell jurors - about witnesses' illicit behaviour. "This evidence... not only

tainted witnesses, it tainted the

whole government strategy, it tainted the whole case," Mr. Schmiedel said. The U.S. attorney's office has not said whether it will appeal or seek new trials. But in court papers filed in late July, prosecubers were having sex and taking

drugs are "terminally inconsistent and inherently implausible." The charges, however, are

Department's office of professional responsibility. The case is now being handled by John Smietanka, U.S. attorney in western Michigan.

Both judges said in written rulings that they didn't believe William Hogan, the top El Rukn prosecutor, was unaware of drug use by his witnesses.

But Mr. Hogan's attorney, Shelly Kulwin, insists his client did nothing wrong and contends the government has failed to introduce evidence that would vindicate him.

"He worked 18-hour days for years, doing the right thing," Ms. Kulwin said. "Could he cover every little thing that happened? Was he there every minute of the day?... No. Was there a possibility on one occasion that an agent screwed up, a secretary screwed

up, something occurred? Yes. Did it involve drugs or sex? No." The El Rukn convictions were touted as the final chapter in the 25-year history of a nefarious gang that amassed a multimillion dollar empire of murder, muscle and drugs.

Using racketeering laws and gang members turned informants, prosecutors decimated the organisation, only to face troubling questions about their

Among the findings of U.S. district judges James Holderman and Suzanne Conlon, both of whom are ex-federal prosecutors:

- Two key El Rukns, Henry Leon Harris and Harry Evans. used drugs while imprisoned as government witnesses. Both tested positive for morphine in 1989 and were not given additional urinalysis tests.

-- El Rukn witnesses had contact visits with girlfriends, wives and others. Some testified in post-trial hearings they had sex in government offices while guarded by agents of the alcohol, tobacco and firearms office or Chicago police.

- El Ruka cooperating witnesses had free access to the U.S. attorney's office's phones and free call forwarding services while incarcerated.

- The government provided gang witnesses clothing, gifts, a camera and headset radios, some at government expense. One El Rukn witness told the FBI that agents guarding him occasionally left him beer in government

- A paralegal for the prosecuversations with an El Rukn witness and smuggled in laxatives that may have been used after informants allegedly swallowed being investigated by the Justice drug-filled condoms or balloons.

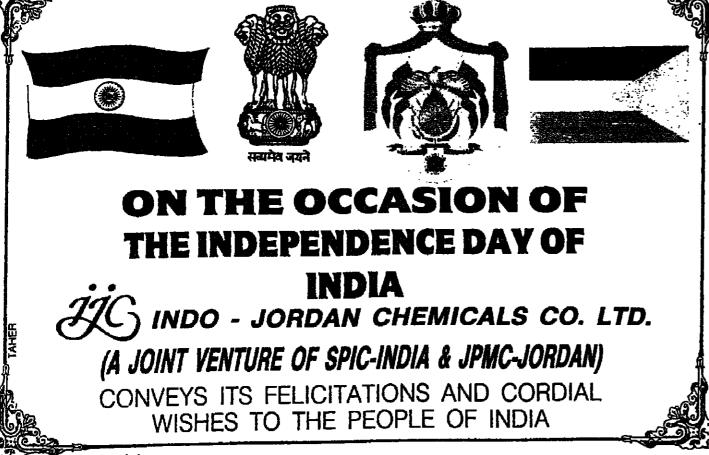


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Our best wishes and felicitations on the eve of India's

47th Independence Day



# Science fantasy

By Maxine F. Singer

SUDDENLY THIS summer, the arcane subject of molecular gene-tics is high fashion. Steven Spielberg and Jurassic Park succeeded a what generations of scientists failed to do: get people excited about biology. Lots of children, and even their science-averse parents, are talking about the two D's: DNA and dinosaurs. And everyone is asking: Can it be done? Can you really make a triceratops or a tyrannosaur or a velociraptor if you try? The answer is no. Not now. Maybe never.
Jurassic Park's "experiment"

has three parts. None of them is now feasible. The first problem is to acquire dinosaur DNA, of many different species, and determine, for each, the order of its billions of DNA building blocks - that is, the dinosaurs' genomes. Each block is one of four kinds of molecules we can call A, G,T and C. It is the order of A, G, T and C in the DNA provided to a fertilised egg by its parents that encodes genes and other information needed to grow a human being.

It's safe to assume that 200 million years ago, in the Jurassic

period, dinosaur eggs were simi-larly instructed. But no one knows the order of more than a

tiny proportion of the A, G, T and C in any hving organism. Jurassic Park's scientists get their DNA from dinosaur blood. The blood itself is presumed to exist in a Jurassic mosquito. which, sated by its blood meal, rested on a tree trunk where it was trapped in sap. The sap then hardened into amber over the millennia.

In fact, small fragments of insect DNA have been recovered from amber. With some good guess-work, the order of A, G, T and C in a 300-block-long stretch has been determined. But there is no reason to believe that the fragments representing the entire insect genome, much less a dinosaur's genome, can be recovered. Nor is there reason to believe that the order of the billions of blocks could be reconstructed from the small fragments of DNA that persist even under the ideal preservation conditions in amber.

Out in the open, water and oxygen would have destroyed the DNA long ago. In a clever device to make the whole "experiment" seem real, Jurassic Park acknowledges that the dinosaur DNA the DNA were filled by guess-work as to what they should be or by using DNA from a contemporary living amphibian, like a frog. And this, of course, is the fatal flaw, Jurassic Park's dinosaurs are designed to be female to avoid natural breeding. But amphibians can change sex, and the amphibian DNA segments

gave the dinosaurs that ability. The second impossible task is to go from the entire genome, all the DNA, to a living animal. In Jurassic Park, the DNA of an unfertilised egg is removed, the reconstructed "dinosaur" DNA is placed in the egg, and after a suitable period under conditions imagined to be hospitable, a cute baby dinosaur emerges.

This too makes a great story, but don't be fooled. Biologists have no idea how to accomplish such feats. And it is unlikely that such an

experiment would succeed. For one thing subtle and poorly understood changes in adult DNA (like that from blood) compared to DNA in eggs and sperm probably make adult DNA incapable of properly initiating the complicated developmental process. For another, in those spe-

will be incomplete. The gaps in cies we know about, like flies, the eggs contain molecules other than DNA, manufactured by the mother's cells. Without these maternal components, the egg can't develop properly, if at all.

The third problem occurs to the story's visiting paleontologists immediately after their spectacular arrival at the park. All living things, humans included, interact with their natural environment.

Maybe sometime in the future we'll learn how to revive extinct animals. And maybe we'll be rich. enough to try such fanciful ex-. periments. For now, though, academic scientists and those working in biotechnology are in-terested in spending what resources are available on using genetics to ameliorate human disease, to understand evolution and to modify plants and animals so we can better feed a hungry

The writer, a molecular biologist, is president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and scientist emeritus at the National Institutes of Health. This article is reprinted from the Washington

However, despite being

replaced by PRC, the ROC

continued existing as an in-

dependent political entity

and was not annexed by the

According to a local

newspaper, several African

countries would follow the

path set by Central Amer-

ican countries and speak up

for the ROC at the U.N.

PRC, the letter said.

### unveils U.N. bid plan Taiwan

TAIPEI - Getting the United Nations to set up an ad hoc committee to look into the ROC's bid to reenter the international organisation is Taiwan's first step towards full U.N. membership, Foreign Minister Predrick Chien said on Aug. 9, 1993.

It was the first time the ministry disclosed ROC's U.N. bid since the issue became the focus of the country's foreign policy last

The ROC has adopted this approach because it was more "open-minded" than other approaches such as a direct application for membership or for observer sta-

tus at the U.N., Chien said. Another reason for the approach was the new attitude prevailing in the ROC

which has seen the nation stop viewing Peking as a rebellious group by ending the period of national mobilisation for the suppression of the Communist Rebellion in 1991.

Chien addressed his speech after seven Central American countries cosigned a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali. The letter asked the U.N. General Assembly to include an item, titled "Review of the exceptional situation of the ROC on Taiwan in the international context with the established pattern of parallel representation by divided countries in the United Nations," in the agenda of the assembly's session in September. They also requested that a U.N. ad hoc

committee be set up to

ROC's situation before presenting its recommendations to be discussed at the assembly's regular session next year. According to an enclosed

explanatory memorandum

to the letter, the countries

also argued that the formula

of adopting a resolution in

study and analyse the

1971 regarding the representation of China as obviously overly simplis-The resolution also produced adverse consequences for the ROC on

Taiwan, the memorandum said. U.N. Resolution 2758 in 1971 had determined that China's seat would be occupied by PRC, and that the PRC was the only repre-

sentative of China.

General Assembly this Chien reminded the public that the proposal was only the beginning of a long and difficult struggle. The ministry did not expect the proposal to be passed this year due to opposition from the PRC, he said. "However, foreseeing failure on the first try does not stop us

from taking the first step,"

Chien said.







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WISH

THE PEOPLE OF INDIA A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY AFFIRMING JORDANIAN FRIENDSHIP AND HOPES OF CONTINUED PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

# Clinton promises all-out fight for NAFTA

dent Bill Clinton is pledging an North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) now he has found common ground with Mexico and Canada over worker rights and the environment.

On Friday, the trade ministers from the United States, Mexico and Canada sealed crucial side deals to the NAFTA, claiming a path-breaking commitment to link free trade with labour right

and environmental sensitivity. Analysts said it was the first time the two issues have been so thoroughly addressed in a trade accord. But thorough or not Mr. Clinton faces an uphill battle winning over Congress in a fight the president can ill afford to

"NAFTA is strongly in the interests of the United States," all-out campaign on behalf of the Mr. Clinton said. "Today I pledge my strongest commitment to a major effort this fall to secure NAFTA's passage.

> Born under administration of then president George Bush and gingerly endorsed by candidate Clinton, the NAFTA would link some 360 million consumers in the world's biggest free-trade

The new side deals - which were months in the making stiffen the NAFTA by opening the way to punishments if member nations fail to enforce labour and environmental standards.

Xinhua said.

thing else.

ments, hotels and office build-

ings, the country will place strict

limits on this area and halt the

construction of some buildings already in progress," Xinhua

Frivolous luxury projects were banned altogether. "There will

be no approval of, no license, no-

land and no loan for such expen-

sive projects as horse race tracks

and golf courses," the State

Council said. "The government

engage in speculative activities

with the aim of making quick

money rather than a long-term

vert "improper" property pro-

jects into workshops, standard

apartments and buildings for

Local governments must con-

But before trade barriers come tumbling down, the deal must be approved by a majority of both

means a given with early reaction decidedly mixed.

"Putting side agreements on NAFTA is like putting earrings on a hog. It's a bad trade agreement and side agreements will dress it up a little, but won't change it," said Democratic Senator Byron Dorgan.

In a major blow to the administration, House of Representatives majority leader Richard Gephardt - whose voice can swing other Democrats firmly into line — said he could not support the agreement as it stands.

"I am not optimistic that these deficiencies can be successfully resolved." Mr. Gephardt said. Unions too said they had been

houses of Congress - by no sold out, with their objections outpacing the complaints of environmentalists, who appeared at first draft to have won stronger

Hoping to appease labour cri-- who fear business will be lured by cheap labour south of the border — Mexico said its minimum wage would rise as economic productivity picks up. "We'll be assuring an effective

and permanent improvement in minimum wages, now and in the future," Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari said in Mexico City.

Under the side deals, Mexico and the United States could face sanctions for persistent wrongdoing, but Canada would just face punishment by its own

feared U.S. industry would use sanctions to wield protectionist threats, applauded the deal.

"It has not been easy but we have prevailed." Trade Minister Thomas Hockin said in Ottawa. 'Under these agreements, Canada will never be subject to trade

Mexico's Trade Minister Jaime Serra Puche — whose government has staked its future on economic reform — insisted in Mexico City that his nation was the real winner.

"The result is very favourable for Mexico, because it will allow us to improve the living standard of our workers... and enjoy a better environment in the future," said Mr. Serra Puche:

sive to unaffordable.

less than in early February, when the yen's latest surge to historic sive for an American tourist.

But visitors from other countries are not immune. Given the recent confusion in European currency markets, more investors are buying yen, pushing up its

was Don Charlesworth, a New Zealander visiting Japan for the first time. He was floored by the cost of a set of golf clubs he priced in the plush Ginza shop-

Ping Zing of the United States that goes for about \$1,000 back home was fetching 324,000 ven, the equivalent of \$3,200, he said.

TOKYO (AP) - Japanese ex- him 58.50 yen last Saturday when

are also getting antsy. Haruyuki Tajiri, reception manager at the moderate Ginza Tokyo Hotel, said he was worried that the higher yen would send budgetminded customers to cheaper hotels. The standard room at his hotel goes for 25,000 yen (about

Junko Igarashi, spokeswoman of the Japan travel Bureau. Japan's largest travel agency, said the higher ven is likely to encourage travellers to Asia to skip Japan in favour for cheaper destinations like Hong Kong and Bangkok.

Last year, a record 11.8 million

# Pakistan premier to announce economic reform within days

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's drugs, he said. government will announce an economic reform package soon to put the country back on the rails of development, caretaker Prime Minister Moeen Qureshi said Saturday.

"My government has prepared a detailed economic programme which fulfills present day require-ments," Mr. Qureshi, a former vice-president of the World Bank, said in a speech marking Pakistan's independence day.

Promising to unveil the reforms within days, Mr. Qureshi said political instability and 11 years of war in neighbouring Afghanistan had damaged Pakistan's economy. The war forced Pakistan to shoulder the burden of 3.5 million Afghan refugees and cope with an influx of illegal arms and

gating India's \$1.28 billion secur-ities scandal proposed in a draft

report Friday that four foreign

banks allegedly involved in the affair should be asked to leave.

The joint parliamentary com-

mittee (JPC) accused the banks

of involvement in India's worst

stocks and securities scandal that

broke last year, bringing opposi-tion calls for Prime Minister P.V.

Mr. Rao last month narrowly

survived a no-confidence motion

that the opposition moved mainly

over the scandal, in which brok-

ers and bankers colluded to ille-

gally divert funds from trading in

government securities to fuel a

The banks allegedly involved in

the scandal are Britain's Standard

Chartered PLC, ANZ Group

Ltd's ANZ Grindlays Bank.

boom on the Bombay Stock Ex-

Narasimha Rao's resignation.

Soon after taking office, Mr. Qureshi devalued the Pakistani rupee by 6.02 per cent to boost flagging exports - a move severely criticised by most political

parties.

assemblies.

Economic analysts believe Mr. Qureshi will announce major economic changes, including a tax on agricultural income. No previous government has been able to impose such a levy because of the vested interests of powerful feudal landlords in parliament and the provincial

The Nation, an independent English-language daily, said on Friday Mr. Qureshi would cut import duties across the board, impose new taxes in the energy

India probe report says

foreign banks should go

NEW DELHI (R) - An Indian Bankamerica Corp's Bank of tion members say.

corp's Citibank N.A.

JPC members said earlier they

The JPC draft report said:

"The seriousness of the transgres-

sions by the foreign banks is

apparent from an observation of

the representative of the finance

ministry who when asked if the

foreign banks to pack up, replied

emment would take necessary

action in this regard," the report,

The 30-member JPC, which is

due to submit its final report to

parliament this month, has a

majority of Mr. Rao's Congress

Party deputies who may eventual-

in a resounding 'yes, sir.'

seen by Reuters, said.

overnment was ready to tell the

"The committee hopes the gov-

had closely examined the secur-

ities transactions of the four fore-

parliamentary committee investi- America N.T. S.A. and Citi-

It said the programme was finalised by Mr. Qureshi during a recent visit to Washington, where he saw senior officials at the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Pakistan is currently negotiating with the IMF on details and conditions of a soft loan aid package worth about \$1 billion. The loan was offered on the basis of continued structural reforms and

tighter fiscal controls. The World Bank agreed earlier this year to lend Pakistan \$250 million in balance of payments

Mr. Qureshi said his government was ready to take tough decisions to help the economy, but would spend maximum resources on human development.

Finance Minister Manmohan

Singh, piloting India's sweeping

economic reforms, has warned

against any move to close down

foreign banks, saying it would

harm his efforts to raise foreign

loans. Mr. Singh says the scandal

Some of the accused banks

have claimed they were following

normal practice in the volatile

securities market when the scan-

dal erupted in April last year.

The JPC is currently debating

whether to summon Mr. Rao, accused by Bombay's "big bull"

stockbroker Harshad Mehta, the

main accused in the scandal, of

accepting 10 million rupees (\$320,000) in payoffs, its mem-

Mr. Mehta says his payment to

Mr. Rao in November 1991 had

helped him carry out some irregu-

lar transactions at the stock ex-

bers said.

ly tone down the proposed action change because government offi-

against the foreign banks, opposicials looked the other way.

was a ".ystems failure."

# China unveils sweeping property restrictions

PEKING (R) -- China announced strict measures Friday to halt chaotic and damaging property speculation, including an outright ban on popular but frivolous projects like gold courses and horse-racing tracks.

The official Xinhua news agency said the State Council, China's cabinet, decreed seven administrative measures as part of economic supremo Zhu Rongji's scheme to bring property speculators to heel.

Mr. Zhu, a powerful vice premier who doubles as central bank governor, has named property and securities speculation as key targets in his efforts to cool China's overheating economy, re-cently expanding at a rate of about 14 per cent a year, and snuff out urban inflation running at more than 20 per cent.

Property development has become a national — and highly profitable — obsession in China, soaking up billions of dollars in questionable state loans which officials now say should have gone to industry, housing and agriculture.

Mr. Zhu said last month that all such "improper" loans must be returned by Aug. 15 and vowed to punish severely bankers will sternly punish those who and local officials who failed to comply with his decree. Xinhua issued a frosty remin-

der that China was still a socialist state, despite a giddy decade of capitalist experiments, saying flatly: "In China, all land is owned by the government."

The new measures bar banks commercial and service purposes, and land administration units it said. Projects that cannot be from running property companies—converted "should be halted re and impose strict limits on the solutely."

payments.

Peanuts

### U.S. says oil tax will not amount of land that can be leased for property development, harm Arab "Localities should strictly control the amount of land used for

**Gulf exports** real estate purposes and ensure that the use of land conforms with the requirements of city planning, a development - schedule, basic DUBAI (R) - President Bill Clinton's energy tax, passed by facilities and legal procedures," it the Senate earlier this month, is unlikely to affect U.S. oil imports The decrees said property infrom Gulf states, U.S. Energy vestment must have the primary goal of promoting key industry

Secretary Hazel O'Leary was reand infrastructure projects and ported as saying Saturday. Ms. O'Leary told the United the construction of housing for Arab Emirates newspaper Al Ittiurban Chinese. They placed had the 4.3 cents-per-gallon tax hike, sharply criticised by Gulf oil sharp curbs on just about every-"For buildings with limited market potential, such as villas, producers, would benefit both consumers and producers by encouraging conservation of natural holiday villages, luxury apart-

fuel resources. Ms. O'Leary said it was "unlikely the tax... would affect the size of U.S. imports of Gulf crude oil or petrol products." the newspaper reported.

She said the United States. which last year imported around 1.8 million barrels of oil per day from the Gulf, had been in touch with oil ministers in the region, and would hold discussions with the ministers over the next two

Gulf Arab oil producers have criticised the U.S. tax and proposals for a tougher European enerev tax as unfair.

They say although the taxes are described as environmental measures, they will cut demand for Gulf oil exports in favour of greater pollutant fuels such coal.

# Yen's upsurge upsets tourists in Japan

aren't the only ones bemoaning him just 56 yen Friday. the seemingly endless rise in the yen's value. Now tourists are complaining that the land of the rising yen has gone from expen-

"Everything is so expensive here," lamented Patricia Marsden, a tourist from Toronto, after visiting several of Tokyo's depart-

ment stores Friday. One U.S. dollar now buys about 102 yen, almost 20 per cent highs began. That makes Japan almost 20 per cent more expen-

value against most currencies. One of those feeling the pain

ping district.
The same 11-iron club set from

"People in Japan may be able to afford it, but it's too expensive

for me," Mr. Charlesworth said. To make matters worse; the value of the New Zealand dollar has gone down every day of his

Hungarian privatisation brings

porters and government officials he arrived in Japan was getting For years, Japan has been an

expensive place to visit, with an inefficient distribution system making consumer prices among the highest in the world. But the higher yen makes it even worse for travellers.

The number of travellers to Japan grew by just one per cent last year after rising 14 per cent and nine per cent respectively in the two years before that, according to the ministry of transport.

Businesses that cater to tourists

But if the yen is keeping foreign tourists away from Japan, it's having the opposite effect on Japanese going abroad. For them, everything abroad seems

Japanese travelled abroad and spent a record \$35.4 billion, according to a report compiled by trip. The same currency that got the prime minister's office.

# Reforms in Tanzania may fuel capital flight — experts

Tanzanian economists warned change auctions and the harmo- London market. nising of exchange rates, could speed capital flight and would not stabilise the local currency.

"The auctions are experimental and rather than eliminating the foreign exchange para-llel market they might provide avenues for capital flight," said Alfred Mbelle, head economist at Dar Es Salaam's University.

Weekly foreign exchange auctions by former socialist Tanzania's; central bank were launched last month and have driven to local shilling up from around 500 to the U.S. dollar to around 460.

This has reversed a trend of devaluation that relentlessly pushed the shilling down in value since independence in 1961, when the currency was worth six to the

Friday that recent financial re- change raised by the central bank change, forms, including foreign ex- through sales of gold on the

> The central bank has bought the gold from small miners at high cash prices that are competitive with those offered by smug-

> But Mr. Mbelle said the shilling could not be stabilised simply through foreign exchange man-agement, adding that the confidence of local businessmen in the future of the economy would have to improve if they were not going to use it to send money abroad.

He added that Tanzania's ecostrong enough to absorb the mas-sive dollar injections from the part funds in shillings. central bank.

Mr. Mbelle cited the cases of Uganda and Zambia, where dol-lar auctions worked for a while said.

The market has been fed by the but closed down after the central occasional sale of foreign ex- bank ran short of foreign ex-

A crucial aspect of currency liberalisation is support from foreign donors w write the process of change which economists believe must sustain an initial period in which capital flight is rampant, but later

calms down. In what could be an example of this support, the European Com-munity (EC) will donate \$50.5 million to Tanzania for balance of payments support, finance minis-

try officials said Friday. The money, given under the latest EC Lome aid agreement with Third World countries, will nomy, impoverished after years be stored in a fund which imporof socialist policies, was not yet ters will draw from, compensat-

The local currency raised will then be used for health and

## New Zealand posts record balance of payments surplus

WELLINGTON (AFP) - New Zealand posted a record balance of payments surplus of 519 million New Zealand dollars (\$286 million) in the latest March quarter, the Statistics Department has said.

million dollars (\$470 million) in the December 1992 quarter and an

The quarterly surplus reflected lower imports, a rise in tourist

HAS MY

DOG MISSED

ME?

arrivals and a reduced outflow on invisible items such as interest

HI, SALLY .. I'M

AFTERNOON..

COMING HOME THIS

improvement from an 18 million dollars (\$9 million) surplus in the previous March quarter. On an annual basis the current account deficit improved to 927 million dollars (\$510 million) from 1.08 billion dollars (\$598 million) in the year ended March 1992.

OH.YES .. HE'S

BEÉN WAITING

FOR YOU ...

The current account surplus is a turnaround from a deficit of 854 half of the year.

Investors paid the agency 7.06 billion forints (\$73.5 million) and 10.68 billion forints' (\$111 million) worth of foreign currency.
A further 1.33 billion forints (\$13.8 million) came from dividends and leases, the agency

BUDAPEST (AFP) - The incomes of Hungary's State Property Agency (SPA), which is responsible for the sales of state assets, totalled 27.62 billion forints (\$287 million) in the first nationalised during communism, to a value of 330 million forints

WELCOME HOME,

ROUND-HEADED KID!

Apart from the cash income,

the SPA was credited with 8.22 billion forints (\$85.6 million) by buyers and received compensation coupons, issued by the state to compensate for property

\$287 million in first half of 1993

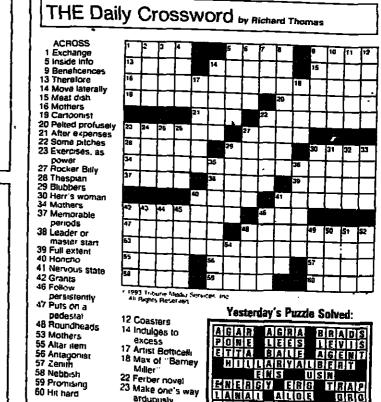
(\$3.4 million).
Government-issued Property Policy Guidelines, which however have not yet been approved by parliament, projected a cash in-come of 74.8 billion forints (\$779 million) for the SPA for the year.

The SPA spent 1.9 billion forints (\$19.7 million) on privatisation during the first six

The agency spent 8.7 billion foring (\$90.6 million) on reducing the state debt, 4.39 billion for the state debt, 4.30 billion for th pany reorganisation, 2.86 billion forints (\$29.79 million) on guarantee payment and it placed four billion forints (\$41.66 million) on long-term deposits for guarantee purposes.

The greatest chunk of that, 1.9 billion forints (\$19.79 million), went into the Employment Fund,

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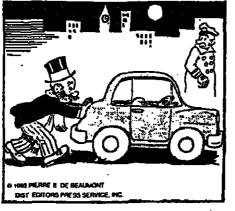
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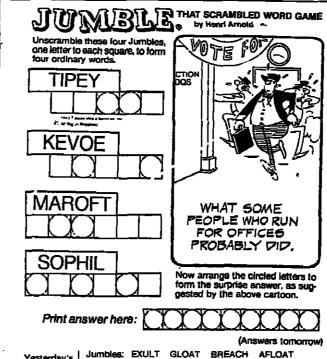
**Andy Capp** 











Answer. What the boxer was worned about-A BOUT

## **Bank of China plans** overseas expansion

HONG KONG (AFP) — The Bank of China is setting up more the programs branches abroad, notably in Russia and Thailand in the near survey as part of an effort to the 1997.

the problem is branches abroad, notably in Russia and Thailand in the near future, as part of an effort to senior distance build a global network by 1997, and and future. In the past two years the bank has opened branches in Canada, has opened branches and branches structural reformation of the structural reformation of the structural reformation of the sage of the structural reformation of the sage o

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Bank president Wang Deyan, speaking to a meeting in Peking of the bank's overseas branch managers, was quoted as saying deposits in overseas branches exceeded \$51.0 billion. He called for a stronger pre-

sence by the bank in securities trading, airplane leasing and the sale of China funds abroad, Mr. Wang said the bank's overseas branches should arrunge more syndicated loans for construction projects in China. adding that the Bank of China Group based in Hong Kong and

Macau should participate in local

building projects through direct

investment or shareholding, Xinhua said.

## credit curbs to spur economy

TAIPEI (R) - Taiwan's central bank eased restrictions on lending to property buyers and investment firms Saturday as purt of measures to stimulate flagging

Financial institutions will be allowed to make more loans for purchases of vacant land in urban areas, as long as the deals are made for legitimate purposes such as construction of commercial and residential buildings, the central bank said.

Ceilings on lending to invest-ment companies that have not registered with the finance ministry were scrapped. Some credit curbs, such as limits on lending for golf course development, were retained.

ABU DHABI (AFP) - The refineries are being expanded," United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the report in the August issue of embarking on a new phase of the company's magazine ADNOC News said.

The new projects would "put the UAE by the start of next year before a new phase in its oil industry and its role in the world oil market," the report added.

The UAE, a key member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has around 98 billion barrels of crude oil reserves --- nearly 10 per cent of the world's reserves and 5.6 trillion cubic metres (186.6 trillion cubic feet) of gas

Oil industry sources said the projects, costing more than \$5 billion would push the UAE's crude output capacity to around three million barrels per day (b/d) by 1995 compared with 3.3 million hid currently.

UAE says it is on verge of new oil era

Gas output is set to double to nearly five million tonnes annual-

ADNOC said a project to increase the production capacity of Umm Al Nar rennery to 85,000 b.d from 72,000 bid would be completed this month, while studies are underway to expand the other refinery at Ruwais.

The company said another project to develop a gas field in Hadshan was launched in March while the commissioning of a new oil field in Jurn Yafour would begin in December.

Almost all the expansion is being carried out in Abu Dhabi, the biggest UAE emirate, which produces more than 80 per cent of the country's output. Abu Dhabi also owns around 90 per cent of the crude reserves.

The second largest producer is Dubai, but according to the Nicosia-based Middle East Economy Survey, the emirate's production has steadily fallen over the past two years because of a decline in offshore fields. From a peak of 410,000 b/d in 1991, Dubai produced about 310,000

b/d in July, it said. Around half of the UAE's oil production of 2.16 million b/d is exported to Japan, which also receives most of the UAE's gas

The UAE has reached its highest level of oil production since it began crude exports in 1962, unlike neighbouring Saudi Arabia, whose output has de-clined to eight million b/d, from

nearly 12 million bid during the ct. boom of the late 1970s.

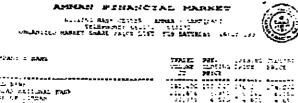
Other Gulf states have that embarked on energy expansion programmes in expectation of increased demand.

However, some experts have said such plans will have to be revised if the European Community and the United States go ahead with proposed energy taxes, which are likely to reduce demand and lower the oil re-

venue of Gulf countries. Oil industry sources in the 12gion said the current projects (eil within short-term plans up to

"Long term plans will depend on the tuture outlook of the Jin market and the effects of the energy taxes if they are enforced," one expert said.

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# Taiwan eases

economic growth.

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and government spending than by SYDNEY (AFP) — New data much needed business investshowing a dramatic pick-up in ment, the rate of growth in the economic growth has pushed Australia to the top of the growth three months to June was almost double what most analysts had league of Western economies. although some economists urged

forecast. The annual growth rate to the end of the March quarter was 2.5 per cent which meant the June increase was the sharpest since figures released by the Bureau of the economic boom was tailing Statistics, real gross domestic product (GDP) jumped by 1.2 off in the September quarter of

However, the bureau's trend

New growth data pushes Australia to top of Western league and representing an annual 2.8

per cent. Prime Minister Paul Keating said the figure pushed Australia in the top of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) table and would give added momentum to an economy which had returned to its favourable position of 30

years ago. "As the growth picks up em-ployment will start," he said. Dresdner Bank economist Rob rate of the OECD nations," he said. "These sort of numbers show we are doing extremely

However some others, including Treasurer John Dawkins said that while encouraging the data may have overstated the strength of the economy.

"I think you've got to take some qualification about these figures in terms of suggesting that we are growing at 3.3 per cent on an annualised basis," Mr. Dawwhich is still in need of some stimulus."

The latest figure follows a growth rate of 0.4 per cent in the March quarter, which had been revised from the previously main lished figure of 0.5 per cent.

The bureau said the narranal accounts were released early pocause of the Aug. 17 budget and the latest figures could also be revised.

The GDP figure of 1.2 per cent' is an average of three other measures - one for income, one for expenditure and one for produc-

### terms for the quarter, from the Henderson said the data showed preceding three months, repremeasure, which smooths out seakins told a press conference. "If the recovery remained reasonsonal influences, gave a less optisenting a rise for the year of 3.3 you look at the trend figures... I ably robust. mistic reading, recording growth think we've got an economy "We have the highest growth of only 0.6 per cent in the quarter Boosted more by consumer

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expansion in its oil industry fol-

lowing the discovery of new de-

posits and the development of

new energy facilities, according

Despite fears that proposed

Western energy taxes would low-

er demand for oil, the UAE has pressed ahead with expansion

plans and stepped up exploration,

said the report by the Abu Dhabi

National Oil Company

ADNOC), which controls the

"New discoveries have been

made in onshore and offshore

missioned and existing fields are

being developed and upgraded.

while new gas plants have been

set up and existing units and

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According to national accounts

per cent in seasonally adjusted

areas, new fields have been com-

to an official report,

UAE's oil industry.

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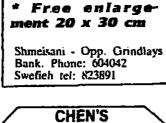
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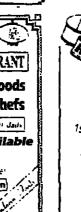
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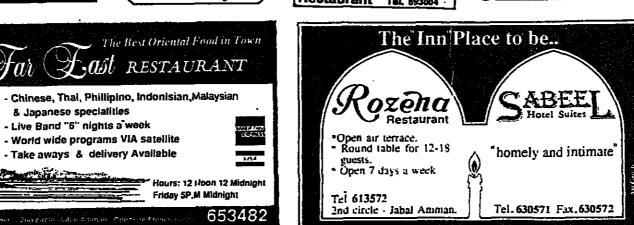
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Lazy postman admits hiding mail

to save time

LONDON (R) — A British post-

man who stole or hid 11,000 postal items because he wanted to

have a short day and play golf was jailed for 12 months Friday. Paul

Osbourne's actions "defied be-

lief", recorder (Judge) David

Roberts said after passing sent-

ence on the postman, who admit-

ted his guilt. "They amount to

laziness, a wish to have a short

day and go and play golf," the judge said. "That is incredible behaviour." Some of the mail

included post due to be delivered

at Christmas last year, prosecutor

Julian Ironside told the court.

Mr. Osbourne, 24, hid thousands

of letters and postal packets in his

house, where a search revealed

33 delivery pouches and a refuse

sack full of mail. Another 4,700

items were found in the loft,

which Mr. Osbourne had forgot-

ten about, Mr. Ironside said. Mr.

Osbourne was found out when a

colleague discovered a partly-

torn refuse sack containing 198

postal packets outside Mr.

Osbourne's home in Swindon, 70

miles (110 km) southwest of Lon-

don.

# French watchdog spikes curbs on immigration

tional council Saturday rejected key provisions of a controversial hardline law to curb immigration and told the conservative government to rewrite them.

The council's ruling, released to the press, censured eight of the law's 52 articles, saying they deprived foreigners of basic rights guaranteed to anyone living on French territory.

There was no immediate reaction from the government. The ruling by the council, which checks that laws conform to the constitution, will force it to review the censured articles.

The law, pushed through parliament last month, is a crucial part of Interior Minister Charles Pasqua's plans to move towards what he has called "zero immigration" and crack down on illegal immigrants.

France has 57.5 million inhabitants, including an estimated 300,000 to one million illegal immigrants, in addition to about four million legal foreign resi-

Welcomed by conservatives and right-wing groups, the law caused an outcry among human rights and anti-racism groups and tional council by Socialist and Communist parliamentarians.

The council declared illegal: - The right of a town mayor to ask a state prosecutor to delay or ban a marriage between a French citizen and a foreigner when it is suspected of being a marriage of convenience to acquire French citizenship. The council said the right to marry was part of indi-

idual freedom. — A provision banning foreign students from bringing their spouse and children to France. The council said this was a basic right for all residents.

An automatic one-year ban on reentry into France for expelled foreigners. The council said the ban could not be imposed without considering the gravity of the reasons for expulsion.

- The right to detain for three months foreigners who cannot be deported to their own country as they have no identity was in infringement on individual free-

- A provision depriving asylum-seekers of the right to appeal after their request had been turned down by administrative authorities.

# U.N. expects Serbs and Muslims to respect pullout

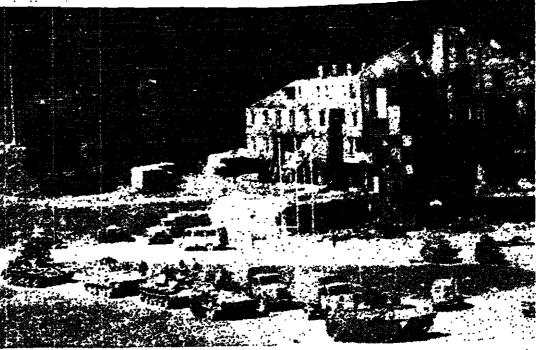
SARAJEVO (R) — The United Nations commander in Bosnia said Saturday he expected both Serb and Muslim forces to respect an agreement for the Serbs to pull their troops off mountain positions surrounding Sarajevo.

General Francis Briquemont was speaking after a 4 p.m. (1400 GMT) deadline set for Serb forces to withdraw from mounts Igman and Bjelasnica.

"I hope this night will be calm," he told Reuters Televi-sion. "I think both sides intend to respect the up ation."

The Serbs 1 re promised to pull their troop back from the mountains in a: operation that would pave the way for the resumption of scalled Bosnian peace talks in Geneva on Mon-

It was not clear whether the final pullout was complete,



Bosnian Serb military vehicles prepare in front of a

## Kashmiri rebels kill 15 bus passengers

NEW DELHI (R) - Muslim Kashmiri separatists killed 15 bus passengers Saturday, the eve of India's independence celebrations, after hijacking the vehicle and picking out their victims. domestic news agencies reported. They quoted police as saying all 15 people picked out for death belonged to "a particular com-

Indian media do not identify specifically the religious identities of victims of sectarian strife and the phrase meant in this case that the murdered people were

The agencies said the bus was on its way to Jammu, the winter capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state, when it was hiiacked by six militants.

They forced the driver to head off the main road to a secluded spot, selected their victims and shot them dead.

mir was widely anticipated this weekend. Pakistan celebrates its 1947 independence from Britain Saturday and India Sunday. Since a rebellion against Indian

marked by violence. Most of it has been in Srinagar,

Phnom Penh calls for patience;

Khmer Rouge demands talks

Trouble in Jammu and Kashported by midday. Police and hospitals have re-

rule broke out in the Kashmir Valley in January 1990, the independence celebrations have been

the Summer capital of the Indian state, where many people fly Pakistani flags on Aug. 14, and demonstrate against Indian rule Witnesses in Srinagar said

strength on the city streets Saturday. Some Pakistani flags flew from rooftops in the narrow streets of the old city, but no significant trouble had been re-

security forces were deployed in

ported more than 12,000 deaths in the rebellion, which India blames on Pakistan, saying Islamabad arms, trains and guides the militants. Islamabad denies the charges.

Some militant groups are fighting to join Pakistan which has fought two of its three wars with India over Kashmir and rules one third of the Himalayan territory. Others want a reunited and independent Kashmir.

Government officials say the

administration wants the Khmer

Rouge to first show its sincerity

by stopping its attacks on the

On Saturday, the Khmer

Rouge demanded on the guerrilla

group's radio that the govern-

ment meet with its leaders to

Meanwhile, the co-presidents

of the interim government were

in Thailand to improve relations

the key backer of the guerrillas.

nd Hun Sen met with senior

ited Nations that Thai troops had

national armed forces.

15-year civil war.

### reputed Hollywood madam widens LOS ANGELES (R) --- A widening investigation of Hollywood's

Investigation of

reputed "madam t , the stars," a case which has sent celebrities and studio executives scurrying for cover, has given rise to new allegations of violence and police complicity. Heidi Fleiss, a 27year-old high school dropout, was reported to have gone into hiding at 'a Palm Springs, California, villa following her arraignment Monday on charges that she ran a high-priced call girl service cater-, with Ms. Fleiss out of sight, Hollywood — a town that loves a steamy plot line - was buzzing with whispers about star marriages and steller careers that could be broken if the contents of her "black book" are ever revealed. In another strange twist, a condominium owned by Ivan Nagy, Ms. Fleiss's 56-year-old ex-boyfriend and an alleged rival in the high-rent prostitution trade, was sprayed with gunfire earlier this week, police said: The Hungarian-born movie producer, who was not home at the time, discuss their offer to end the appeared on Cable News Network's Larry King Live show Thursday night saying he would not be surprised if Ms. Fleiss's "kick man" — her enforcer with a neighbour that has been was behind the attack. Mr. Nagy, arrested last week on charges of Prince Norodom Ranariddh ring, suggested that the intent Thai officials Saturday and were may have been to intimidate him scheduled to have an audience into silence. Ms. Fleiss, he said, would like him to "go away for two years, disappear." Suspicion has been cast on local policy departments amid press reports of investigations into allegations

### Hanoi to get mobile phones

security for Ms. Fleiss.

that off-duty officers may have

worked as drivers or provided

HANOI (R) - Mobile telephones, standard business tools in most Asian cities, are to come this month to Hanoi, one of the continent's last beep-free outposts. In newspaper advertisements Saturday. Vietnam's post office said it was starting an experimental service in the capital in late August. A mobile phone service already operates in Ha Chi Minh City, Vietnam's bigged city and commercial centre.

### Berlin court rules in alleged art forgery case

BERLIN (R) — A Berlin court lifted a gag on an art expert who maintains that the so-called Vienna collection of the late German artist Joseph Beuys is a forgery. The controversy, which critics believe could develop into the biggest art forgery case in post-war Europe, involves more than 100 works its owners say are worth nearly 12 million. The appeals court overturned a lower court decision which muzzled art historian Heiner Bastian from alleging that 28 collages and other works shown at the Brera Academy in Milan, Italy, were fraudulent. It did not rule on their authenticity. "Arte Povera" movement who died in 1986, visited the Milan exhibit in March and declared in a scathing letter to several institue tions that the works were forged. He was sued by Vienna art dealer Julius Hummei, who displayed the works and previously exhibited more than 100 Beuys objects in Tenerife, Canary Islands. Mr. Hummel said Beuys created the works in Vienna between 1976 and 1983. At the centre of the dispute is Oswald Oberhuber, rector of Vienna's School of Applied Art. He authenticated the works and claimed in a declaration to the lower court to have bought some of them from the artist himself. But Mr. Oberhad. ber later withdrew his testimony.

# Death toll climbs in Thailand hotel collapse

KORAT, Thailand (AP) Workers rushed to rescue survivors among at least 100 persons still entombed beneath the wreckage of a collapsed, six-story hotel Saturday. The death toll mounted to 59, and was expected to further increase, authorities

The hotel, touted as the most haxurious in this provincial capital, collapsed quickly in a heap of concrete and twisted steel rods

About 350 injuries were reported, although about a fifth of them were minor.

The stench of death began to spread across the site of the Royal Plaza Hotel as workers toiled under a boiling sun. Police were seen retrieving architectural blueprints from the rear of the

collapsed structure.
"We are trying to lift off the hotel's roof today to save anyone who might be alive," said Cnatichai Choonhavan, a former

prime minister and nativ. of this commercial centre abo. 130 miles (200 kilometres) nor 'reast of Bangkok.

Mr. Chatichai, who said poor building methods may hav caused the collapse, likened th

"Some are still alive. We can hear their voices," said one 1 -cue worker, passing a bucket of debris to another in a long human chain. Police Major Suchin Mitpanich said at least 100 persons remained buried under the debris but could not estimate how many vere still alive.

A provincial coordinating committee, set up Friday, gave the latest death toll at 59.

Bedsheets were strung up to protect workers from the searing tropical sun. Exhausted, some stretched out to catch naps on mattresses from the ruined hotel. One man slept in a bathtub. The rescue teams had worked through the night, using jackhammers, crowbars, hacksaws and cranes. Sobbing relatives stood for questioning the hotel owner, by, waiting to learn the fate of architect and an engineer who people still caught under the

The council said authorities

should be careful not to infringe

basic rights and discriminate when implementing other provi-

sions regarding asylum and

It was the fourth time in a

month that the council partially

censured laws passed by the over-

whelmingly conservative parlia-

The watchdog last month re-

jected clauses of a nationality law

under which foreigners or

French-born children of fore-

igners could be denied citizenship

if they had been the object of an

expulsion or confinement order.

new criminal procedure code

allowing police to hold children under 13 for up to 48 hours and

banning suspected terrorists and

drug dealers from being assisted

by a lawyer while in police cus-

It said that a law making the

bank of France independent from

the government in line with the

Maastricht Treaty could not be

implemented until the treaty on

European Union had come into

effect. The treaty still has to be

ratified by Germany.

It rejected this month parts of a

ment elected last March.

identity checks.

Air Force master sergeant caught under the falling building when he stopped there to send a fax, another U.S. serviceman said Saturday. Police identified him as Lamont Canda and said he was a Filipino-American.

Master Sgt. Larry H. Crismon of Salt Lake City, Utah, said the dead sergeant was part of an air force detachment installing tele-phone lines at the Korat Royal was used by Americans during the Vietnam War.

hotel's collapse was connected to, ever brought to justice. the addition of three top floors in Kingchakaew, said the hotel was resulted in frequent problems, being renovated when it col- he said.

Police said they were holding worked on the additions.

A newspaper report said addi-Among the dead was a U.S. tional weight may have been the placed on the structure after the hotel stocked up additional water supplies in four huge tanks atop the building in anticipation of a water supply cut.

Investigators are to determine whether the extra floors were built illegally, as is often the case in Thailand.

Visiting the scene Friday, Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai noted that some official inspec-Thai Air Force Base. The base tors are known to take bribes in exchange for approving construcbe Vietnam War.

Police said they suspected the accidents occur few culprits are

"It seems we Thais do not 1990. A police official, Chalong respect regulations and this has

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Bomb injures 5 policemen in Belfast

BELFAST (R) - A car bomb exploded outside a popular restaurant in a predominantly Protestant area of Belfast late Friday, injuring police officers who were trying to clear the area, police said. They said five officers needed treatment for cuts and bruises while several civilians were suffering from shock. The police were evacuating people after a telephone caller warned that a 250-pound (113-kg) bomb had been placed in a car near the Barclay Restaurant. The caller iming to represent the Irish Republican Army (IRA), used a code word recognised for such messages. A police spokesman said the call had given only a few minutes notice of the blast, adding that this had been hopelessly inadequate. The IRA is fighting to drive Britain from Northern Ireland. Earlier Friday firebombs believed have been planted by the IRA wrecked four stores in the southern English resort of Bournemouth. No one was reported injured.

### U.S. improves Georgia ties

TBILISI (R) - The United States Friday formally upgraded its economic relations with Georgia Friday, granting the Transcaucasian state "most favoured nation" trading status, Georgia's government press centre said. A press centre representative said U.S. Ambassador Kent Brown met Foreign Minister Alexander Chikvaidze and handed over documents ratified by the U.S. Congress detailing Georgia's new trade status. Five days earlier, a U.S. diplomat alleged to have been working for Washington's Central Intelligence Agence (CIA) was shot dead in a car on a bandit-infested road outside the Georgian capital. Mr. Brown told a news conference that U.S. interest in Georgia was high and that the only obstacle to increased investment was concern are security. But he said Washington did not "associate the ( >mat's) murder with Georgia as a whole." On Wedne Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze suspended his se chief, Eldar Gogoladze, Mr. Gogoladze had been driving .ir. Woodruff and two women back into Tbilisi after a sightseeing trip when the American was killed.

### ANC repudiates Mokaba comments

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The African National Congress (ANC) has repudiated youth leader Peter Mokaba's call for attacks on President F.W. De Klerk and for the explusion of security forces from black townships. Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said police had begun an enquiry into Mr. Mokaba's angry rhetoric at a funeral Thursday for victims of township violence and a prosecution might follow. Mr. Mokaba triggered a wave of mainly white outrage Thursday when he told black youths at the funeral to drive the army and the police out of the townships "and take the struggle to their areas." When youths greeted him with volleys of pistol and rifle fire, he told them "direct those bullets against De Klerk." He also urged them to take down a migrant-worker hostel dominated by the rival Inkatha Freedom Party "brick by brick." The ANC said in a statement it had never called for the physical dismantling of hostels, which are often dominated by supporters of rival black leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party.

### Italy seeks to restart Karabakh talks

ROME (R) — Italy produced a fresh initiative designed to restart the stalled peace process in the disputed Transcaucasian enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh. An Italian Foreign Ministry statement said warring Armenians and Azeris would be asked to approve a new timetable for the introduction of a ceasefire to end a five-year conflict which has killed thousands. The two ethnic groups are fighting for control of the former Soviet enclave, a region largely peopled by Armenians but administered by Azeris. The initiative follows a meeting in Rome Friday between Armenian and Azeri representatives and nine nations from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which have been trying to resolve the conflict since March 1992. The Italians, heading the mediation effort, said the CSCE would send a mission to the region to report on the military and political situation. The statement said the Rome meeting was attended by high level government officials from Armenia and Azerbaijan plus representatives of the two communities from Nagorno-Karabakh. It added the conflict had created more than a million refugees more than 750,000 in Azerbaijan and at least 300,000 in Armenia. Iran Thursday warned Armenia to pull forces out of Azerbaijan, saying it could not remain indifferent to aggression close to its own borders.

### 'Access to N. Korea plants not enough'

VIENNA (R) - The United Nations nuclear watchdog said Friday North Korea was still restricting access to two suspect atomic sites and an agreement on full inspections appeared to be deadlocked. A team of experts from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) returned from a week-long visit to North Korea Thursday and said they were only allowed to carry out maintenance work on monitoring equipment at the plants in Yongbyon. "We are not getting the kind of satisfactory access required to move our inspections procedures ahead, IAEA spokesman David Kyd told Reuters. "That process is stymied for the time being," he added. North Korea's Stalinist government agreed after talks with the United States last month to allow IAEA experts to resume inspections. Pyongyang softened its position after four months of tense negotiations following its unprecedented move in March to withdraw from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, blocking further IAEA checks.

### China blames West for corruption

PEKING (AP) - China's Communist Party chief has linked the nation's growing corruption with Western influences, and plans to launch a major crackdown later this month, a pro-Peking newspaper in Hong Kong reported Saturday. Party General Secretary "Jiang Zemin believes that at no time have a few Western forces stopped practicing peaceful evolution on us, creating chaos in people's minds and disrupting the building of socialism," the Wen Wei Po said. "Peaceful evolution" refers to a supposed plot in the West to gradually undermine socialism in China by introducing Western ideas. The charge was levelled frequently in the conservative backlash following the crackdown on the 1989 pro-democracy movement, but has rarely been invoked in the past year, as the nation turned its focus from political issues to economic ones. The newspaper reported Mr. Jiang as saying that China must oppose peaceful evolution, total Westernisation and corruption at all times. It said the party leadership has agreed to launch a major anti-corruption crackdown on Aug. 20 and are determined to crack some big cases in the next six months.

### Amnesty fears for Timor rebel leader

JAKARTA (R) - Human rights group Amnesty International said Saturday it remained concerned about jailed East Timorese rebel leader Xanana Gusmao despite Indonesia's reduction of his life sentence. In a statement from its London headquarters, Amnesty said the reduction of Mr. Xanana's imprisonment to 20 years, announced Friday, was designed to appease the international community. Indonesia has barred family and Red Cross visits to Xanana since his trial ended in May, Amnesty said. "Amnesty International has remained seriously concerned about the health of Xanana Gusmao throughout his detention," it said. Mr. Xanana, 47, who headed a Fretilin guerrilla army fighting Indonesian rule in East Timor until his capture last November, was sentenced after a three-month trial. Amnesty has called the

### Jamaica finance minister quits

KINGSTON, Jamaica (R) - Jamaican Finance Minister Hugh Small has resigned his cabinet post following reports of fiscal and monetary policy differences with the ruling People's National Party. A statement issued by the office of Prime Minister P.J. Patterson said Mr. Small submitted his resignation after he refused to lead a government policy review requested by the cabinet. The cabinet had expressed concern over the impact of several new policy initiatives. Under International Monetary Fund guidance recent changes in Jamaica's foreign exchange system have led to a 12 per cent devaluation, and government's tighter monetary controls ha. & pushed interest rates upwards of 55 per cent.

## The Khmer Rouge considers

Cambodian government 1978. appealed Saturday to the people to be patient and understanding with its administration as it struggles to guide a country wrecked by two decades of war.

The administration, which took control after U.N-organised elections this past May, said in a statement that some political forces were trying to destroy the coalition government without thinking of the nation.

But it called on the people to be patient, respect law and order and help prevent the further divinon of the country. The statement, which also was

night, was clearly aimed at the Khmer Rouge, which controls about 20 per cent of Cambodia. The guerrilla group has been

attacking the forces of the new national army while objecting to the coalition government comprised of its former battlefield ally, FUNCINPEC, and its nemesis, the previous Vietnameseinstalled administration.

The Khmer Rouge has called for FUNCINPEC, which won most seats in the election, to rule alone. And it has called on the people to fight against any elements of the previous administra-

DENVER, Colorado (R) -

Pope John Paul II took an un-

usual break Friday, spending a day in the Rocky Mountains be-

fore urging young people in Denver to work for peace and jus-

The Pontiff addressed his

young audience via a television

hookup after spending a day in

the Rockies, where he hiked,

read poetry and prayed, his

spokesman Joaquin Navarro-

"Commit yourselves to the

struggle for justice, solidarity and

peace in the world. Offer your

Valls told reporters.

PHNOM PENH (AP) - The tion, installed by Vietnam in

thousands of Cambodians.

alongside the FUNCINPEC Par-

The government statement said read on national television Friday FUNCINPEC and the Cambodian People's Party of the former Vietnamese-installed administration were cooperating to solve the myriad problems facing Cambo-dia and noted it was "the first time in two decades of war that we can compromise with hon-

The Khmer Rouge has clearly

youthful energies and your talents to building a civilisation of Conception.

that administration its enemy because it ousted the guerrilla group from three years of power, during which it killed hundreds of The Khmer Rouge then fought

ty and a third rebel group for 13 years against the Vietnameseinstalled administration until all four factions signed a 1991 peace accord. Only the Khmer Rouge has violated the accord, even boycotting the poll this past

been sidelined by the new administration.

Christian love," he told the

He also exhorted them against

"Take courage in the face of

life's difficulties and injustices,"

the Pope told young people tak-

ing part in the way of the cross

commemorating the events be-

tween Christ's condemnation to

die and his death on the cross.

ple attending World Youth Day,

an international religious gather-

ing, was transmitted by cable to

an outdoor stadium from the

His address to the young peo-

becoming disheartened by life's

youngsters.

troubles.

with King Bhumibol Adulyadej.
A joint communique issued Friday avoided the issue of continued involvement by Thai businessmen with the Khmer Rouge or accusations by the Un-

cooperated with the Khmer Rouge in some border areas. Instead the communique focused on further Thai aid to The government has so far Cambodia, the opening of permanent border crossing points and

refused to consider the Khmer Rouge's offer to join the new cooperation in a number of fields. national army and open its territory to the government if made duled to return to Cambodia Sunadvisors to the administration.

Pope takes break in Rocky Mountains The Pope was given a pair of white, size 10-1/2 sneakers upon his arrival at a Catholic retreat house in Estes Park, about 60

The co-presidents are sche-

"I think he was very, very happy today," his spokesman said adding he had used a walking stick the children presented to him with a jacket.

miles from Denver.

The pope seemed to be enjoying the mountain air after the sweltering temperatures in Jamaica and Mexico, the first two legs of his trip.

An avid mountaineer, the Pope was unfazed by the 9.200 foot (2,800 metres) altitude. Card.

# Documents prove Japan waged germ warfare in China during World War II

proving what the government has long denied - that the imperial army conducted secret biological warfare in China during World War II. news reports said Satur-

Shinichi Arai, a professor at Surugadai University, and a research team discovered journals compiled by the notorious Unit 731, which experimented on humans to create biological weapons, in the library of the army's National Institute for Defence, the daily Asahi Shimbun and Kyodo News Agency said. Prof. Arai could not be reached for comment.

The documents provide grisly details of how Unit 731 waged germ and pest warfare in China, according to the reports.

One account tells of a pilot scattering fleas that had been

TOKYO (R) — Japanese historians have unearthed documents contaminated with plague bacilli China, killing more than 400 peober 1941.

Two weeks later, Unit 731 notes that Chinese authorities reported the outbreak of plague in

In another, a senior army medical officer described a plan to use 750,000 Japanese-raised rats to cause disease in China. The Japanese government has long maintained there is insuffi-

cient evidence to back up claims that the unit conducted gruesome experiments on allied prisoners in China up until the end of World War II and that it waged germ

Last year, another team of Japanese researchers went public with pre-1945 Chinese government documents describing how the imperial army sprayed germcontaminated fleas over central

Unit 731 was run by Major General Shiro Ishii, a bacteriologist who was never tried as a

Mr. Bastian, a long-time friend of
Beuys, a leading figure of the war criminal by allied forces after Japan's 1945 defeat.

Some historians have said that Ishii and his colleagues were granted immunity by U.S. occupation forces in exchange for research data.

Earlier this month, Japan's outgoing Liberal Democratic Party government finally acknowdged that the imperial army had forced tens of thousands of Asian women to serve as battlefront Documents proving the exist-

prostitutes for Japanese soldiers. ence of such "comfort women" as they were called in Japanese, were discovered in late 1991 by a Japanese historian in the same army library in Tokyo.

# s hiding me Agassi over comments advances to quarters as because he Sampras advances to quarters action. File MASON. Ohio (R) — Andre Stich pinned to the baseline. Second seed and defending champion Martina Navratilov don't think he had any Agassi overcomes Stich,

corder (Judge Agassi had no problem doing aid after phy Jouble duty Friday, calling his postman, was morning match a great warm-up with they are normally that put him in the wish to have coming match a great warm-up a wish to have germany that put him in the go and play remifinals of the \$1.65 million of the state of the unseeded, 28th-ost due to be tracked Agassi's 6-3 6-2 quarterlas last year the state of th

e time

las last year & Snal win over the tourun-scan up-maide told be sixth-ranked German was an up-ume. It has set, but the win was the fourth in and postal ned, as many matches for the uncharand postal pade acteristically low-ranked Amery poncha can against Stich.

y pouches and can against Stien.

of mail Anon-defending champion, breezed

re found in defending champion. re found a past 202-nd-ranked Steve Bryan
Osbourne & 5-4 6-0 in one hour in his quarter-Mr. Ironside final.

Was found by: final.

Was found by: Thursday's total rain-out discovered meant that third-round and se sack meant that matches were both se sack come quarter-final matches were both sackets officeplayed Friday.
s home in St. The semifinals will pit Agassi km) souther against seventh-seeded fellow Michael Chang and

igation of an Edberg of Sweden. Agassi Sampras against third-seeded Ste-Holly leads Chang 5-1 in career meet-n widens 4-3.

Edberg bear American Brassing in State of the Australian Jason Stolten-madam 1-th-perg 7-6 (7-3) 5-7 6-3 in their the has an quarter-finals.

O executive Agussi's low ranking made this Edberg beat American Brad

o executive. Agussi's low ranking made this has given by event the first since October 1987 s of violence, in Basic, Switzerland, that he has Heim the not been seeded.

igh school dr. Agassi, who started the day o have gone, with a 7-5 6-1 third-round victory n Sping ( over American Doug Flach, wing her an pent a total of two hours, 33 in charges the ninutes on-court in his two

d call girl प्रत्यू matches. "In a situation like this you fleis on the the the first match goes comed a town to cortably," said Agassi. "You of line - 32 ton't was the first match to ake pers alon - oo much out of you. I handled it d steller carriectly. It was a great warm-

roken if the in his second match, Agassi k book at hayed decisive tennis, keeping ) another sure he normally serve-and-volleying

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+ 8 5 EAST

652 9853 + KJ62

North East 2 \*

2 2 + Pass Pass

+QJ1076 +A94 4 52 KJ10 9858

SOUTH

Opening lead: Queen of • "Flying fingers" is a disease that afflicts many bridge players. Its symptom is playing to the first trick before thoroughly mapping out the

1 🛊

iliages and in in days of yore, North's free raise the Breff his to two hearts on a balanced hand ily, were find containing two kings would have he on frowned upon in the best circles. Those days are known to be the circles.

an. a long-page cles. These days, any hand contain-leading figs ing four-card support for opener's major and a smattering of points is vert visited 5

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

e him to 20 8

s. Fleiss's in Prost cautious after

s sprayed with: winning provisional pole

not home ne MOGYOROD, Hungary (AP) — Alain Prost was more than half a

on Cable is econd better than the rest of the field Friday, winning the arry King In provisional pole but not by enough to make him comfortable after

in the same  $i \in K$ . I think the track is going to change quite a lot over the course of  $n' = \ker K$  he weekend, "he said after driving his Williams-Renault around the

d the attact 1/2 3-968-kilometre (2.465-mile) Hungaroring Circuit in one minute.

asi week on the 15.488 seconds. "We have to be careful about the conditions and the

gested that the Prost, looking for his eighth victory of the year and fifth in a row, been to numer inveraged 189.488 kph (117.584 mph), easily beating Germany's and the Flers Michael Schumacher, who drove his Benneton-Ford to a time of

disappear to rhanical and tyre failure while leading the last two races in cast on local and Germany, was next in 1:16.135.

gations into all was happay about his car's setup, especially going into Saturday's

is drivers of f "We've had some specific traction control problems in the last few

or Ms. Fleix aces, and I feel now that we have 99 per cent solved those

a phones nechanics had them working properly by the start of qualifying.
"I tried hard, but I had some problems, not least when I came

IR - Moleripon one car spinning," he said. "He had just lost it, and I just

Damon Hill, the hard-luck Briton who has been fouled by

Schumacher, who finished second two weeks ago in Hockenheim,

Hill battled with his brakes early in the morning practice but his

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

HASTE MAKES WASTE

virtually a compulsory raise, both in

and out of competition. South was full value for a jump to game.

ouick as a flash. South covered an

returned a soade, and eventually de-

clarer had to rely on the diamond

finesse for the contract. Unfortu-nately, that failed and declarer con-

ceded two diamond tricks and one in

Naturally, declarer squandered a priceless asset at trick one. West

surely was not leading the queen of spades from a holding that included

the A Q, especially on this auction.

By playing low instead of going up

with the king, declarer would have had an extra chance for the

club. Declarer ducks the first club

and wins the continuation. (If East

switches to a diamond instead, dr-

drew trumps by using dummy's high trumps, each time returning to hand

by ruffing a spade. When the ace of spades drops on the third round of the suit, declarer can ruff a club in

dummy, discard a diamond on the

king of spades, then try the diamond

finesse for an overtrick.

each black suit.

West led the queen of spades and.

night saving he first qualifying session for the Hungarian Grand Prix.

intentions of staying back, but I played strong enough to keep him back," said Agassi,

Agassi was practically errorfree in the entire match with only three unforced errors - all in the

He had a stunning first-serve percentage of 73 while the serving specialist Stich had an embarrassing 38 per cent.

After taking the first set with a service break in the eighth game, Agassi dominated the second set with breaks in the third and fifth

At 5-1, Agassi had two match points on Stich's serve in the seventh game, but did not take the match until the eighth game. Stich defeated Australian Mark Woodforde 6-3 6-3 in his morning third-round match.

The top-ranked Sampras, who posted a 6-2 7-5 third-round win over fellow American Aaron Krickstein earlier in the day. served 12 aces in his match against Bryan.

Bryan had upset 10th-seeded Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev in his earlier third-round match.

Sampras broke Bryan's serve at love in the fifth game of the first set for the lead. In the second set, Sampras only lost six points, two on his own service.

There was no reason for me to play any more," said Sampras, who turned 22 on Thursday. "Up 5-0, I don't want to fool around, get broken and stay out there an extra 15 minutes,

### Sanchez Vicario outlasts Garrison-Jackson

In Manhattan Beach, California, top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario showed her third-set tenacity when she outlasted eighth seed Zina Garrison-Jackson 6-3 3-6 6-2 in one hour. 58 minutes in the quarter finals of the 375,000 Virginia Slims of Los

# Seles' attacker charged

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) -The man who stabbed Monica Seles in April and knocked her out of tennis competition has been charged with causing grievous bodily harm, authorities

said Friday.
Seles, 19, has been undergoing rehabilitation in Vail, Colorado. at the Steadman-Hawkins Clinic, and will be unable to defend her U.S. Open title at the end of August, it was announced Thurs-

The prosecutors' office in Hamburg, where Seles was com-peting when she was stabbed by a man who said he wanted German Grand Slam winner Steffi Graf to return to the top of the Women's Tennis Association rankings, said the suspect Guenter P. was charged on 'fhursday. The sus-pect's full name has not been released, as is often the case in German law.

The 38-year-old man from Thuringia state in eastern Germany will not be prosecuted for the more serious charge of attempted manslaughter. Prosecutors said last week that Seles had not permitted her doctors to provide detailed information about her wound, and that prevented the prosecutor from filing the more serious charge.

Conviction for attempted manslaughter would likely bring a minimum prison septence of five years, while the charge of causing grievous bodily harm has a maximum sentence of five years.

The suspect, who remains under arrest, is accused of stabbing Seles in the back as she sat during a changeover between ames during a tournament in Hamburg April 30.

Seles was the WTA's two ranked player, but since then Graf has taken over the lead, winning the French Open and Wimbledon

# IAAF sticks with 4-year bans

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DAR AL DAWA CO. is seeking to employ a compe-

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Candidate please send · C.V. and recent

P.O. Box 9364 or fax 683199, Amman.

Jordanian, preferably university graduate.

For more information pls. call Tel.: 687224

STUTTGART (AP) - Despite the risk of further legal conflicts, the governing body for track and field this week upheld its hardline penalties for drug use.

Second seed and defending

defeated seventh-seeded Aman-

da Coetzer of South Afica 6-1 6-1

in her quarter-final match at the

56-player, hard court tournament

which serves as a warm-up for the

McNeil erased a poor first set

with tough, aggressive tennis in

the last two sets when she beat

fourth-seeded Amgdalena

Maleeva of Bulgaria 1-67-6 (7-4)

7-5 in the quarter-finals.
Third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini

of Argentina outplayed Amer-

ican Kimberly Po 6-4 6-2.
Pairings for the semifinals are

Sanchez Vicario versus McNeil

Sanchez Vicario, who is now

and Navratilova against Sabatini.

8-1 in three-set matches this year,

spent most of her match with

Garrison-Jackson scrambling

from side-to-side and trying to

keep the American away from

in the world, took the offensive in

the final set, putting the 16th-ranked Garrison-Jackson on the

defensive and approaching the

net behind her well placed

groundstrokes on key points.
Sanchez Vicario said that her

three-set record this year is a

result of her confidence and she

hopes to use it to win the upcom-

matches, which shows that I am very tough mentally. If I can keep

doing this, I will win one of these

in a big final, I hope," the Spa-

going to run me around very

much but when I got to the third set I was not fired because I am in

a good shape," Sanchez Vicario

event a record seven times, con-

trolled the important points by

hitting her serves close to the

lines or successfuly attacking

Coetzer's backhand.

Navratilova, who has won this

"Today, I knew that she was

"I am winning many three-set

ing U.S. Open.

niard said.

Sanchez Vicario, ranked third

Tenth-seeded American Lori

The International Amateur Athletic Federation rejected proposals for more lenient sanctions and stuck to its automatic four-year suspension for use of steriods and other performanceenhancing substances.

The IAAF increased the ban from two years to four years in 1991. A second violation results in a life expulsion.

The German track federation. its hand forced by the contested drug suspension of Katrin Krabbe, proposed a flexible system of

First, the Germans proposed that first-time violators receive a suspension of between one and four years, depending on the degree of guilt. They later suggested a ban of between two and four years, and four years to life for a second offense.

Finally, the Germans were forced to withdraw their proposals after the overwhelming majority of IAAF members spoke

"It would be a mistake to reduce the penalty to the lowest common denominator," said British delegate David Bedford, who spearheaded the introduction of the four-year ban in 1991.

Helmut Digel, president of the German track federation, complained that only 10 of the 194 countries involved in the debate

دار الدواء

### were truly aware of the problems. RANGE ROVER 89 FOR SALE

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# World Athletics Championships

# 1st gold medal goes to Finland

Essayah of Finland won the first gold medal of the World Championships Saturday, while American sprinter Andre Cason posted the fastest time in the 100-metre

Essayah won the women's 10kilometre walk in 42 minutes and 59 seconds, just off the championship record of 42:57. It was the first major victory for the 26-year-old Essayah, who finished third at the 1991 World Championships and fourth at the 1992 Olympics. Essayah surged into the lead

after the halfway point when the leader, Madelein Svensson of Sweden, was disqualified for an nfraction — most likely running. Ileana Salvador of Italy took the silver in 43:08, with Encarna-cion Granados of Spain winning the bronze in 43.21.

Russian athletes, who won the event at the two previous World Championships, finished out of the medals this time. The top Nikolayeva, who finished seventh.

In the men's 100, all the top names advanced with ease to the second round. Cason, the U.S. champion, led the way with a

time of 10.09 seconds. Christie of Britain posted 10.24.

mediocre start. My reaction was good, but some of my mechanics were off. I feel I can improve my

Lewis, who has failed to win at

Carl Lewis, seeking a fourth straight world title in the 100, had the second best time of 10.15. Nigeria's Daniel Effiong, Bruny Surin of Canada and Raymond Stewart of Jamaica all ran 10.23, while Olympic champion Linford

Dennis Mitchell of the United States ran a 10.26 and Frankie Fredericks of Namibia, silver medalist in Barcelona, finished in

"I'm just going out and running my race," Cason said. "I had a

100 metres this season, said he 45.94.

STUTTGART (AP) - Sari Russian finisher was Yelena was bothered by three false starts in his beat.

They rattled everyone," he said. "I didn't react very well, but I felt as good as ever running-

Christie declined to speak with reporters.
"The talking is finished," he

said. "This is where the business starts." Second-round qualifying in the 100 was scheduled for Saturday

evening, with the final on Sunday In the men's 400, the three top favourities - all Americans coasted through the first round. World record-holder Butch

Reynolds, who missed the Barcelona Olympics due to a drug suspension, won his heat in 45.34. Michael Johnson, unbeaten in the 400 since 1989, captured his

heat in 45.60, and Olympic champion Quincy Watts eased up and finished second in his heat at

### NEWS IN BRIEF

### Algeria expelled from African Nations' Cup

CAIRO (R) — The African Soccer Federation has expelled Algeria from the finals of the African Nations' Cup for fielding a player who was under suspension, a federation statement said Saturday. The statement said Algeria would be considered to have lost their January 10 match with Senegal because Mourad Karouf played while he still had one match of a two-match suspension to serve. This meant Senegal instead of Algeria would qualify for the finals of the Biennial Cup, due to be held in Tunis next March. Ivory Coast are the defending champions.

### Former World Cup greats promotional tour

NEW YORK (AP) - Pele and other former World Cup stars such as Rivelino, Gordon banks and Geoff Hurst will take part in Soccer Blast USA a 36-city touring festival. The one-day events began Saturday in Boston and will run through Dec. 19, the day of the World Cup draw. Soccer Blast USA, sponsored by Mastercard and Proctor and Gamble, will visit 25 states. Besides the World Cup stars, U.S. national team players Peter Vermes, Desmond Armstrong and Michelle Akers-Stahl, will participate in various activities, including shooting contests against a mechanical goalkeeper and 5-on-5 games with amateur players. The shooting contests will offer prizes to goal scorers. Pele will be on hand for approximately 10 events and drawings will be held for free copies of his instructional video. He also will sign autographs, as will vermes, armstrong and Akers-Stahl, championship in 1991.

### Evans shrugs aside Barcelona setback

KOBE (R) - Triple world record holder Janet Evans, unbeaten in 400 metres freestyle since 1986 - Barcelona Olympics excepted - swept to an easy victory in the finals of the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships Saturday. Evans, record holder at 400, 800 and 1,500 metres freestyle. won in four minutes 07.47 seconds to help dispel ber 1992 setback when she was toppled in Spain by German outsider Dagmar Hase. "I cannot remember how many (400 metres) golds I have as I don't count, but Barcelona is the only one I didn't get going back to 1986," the American told reporters. Promising Costa Rican Claudia Poll, who won the 200 metres freestyle final Thursday, finished second in 4:09.61. Australia's Kieren Perkins, men's freestyle world record holder at 800 and 1,500, added 400 gold to Thursday's 800 victory, breaking the Pan Pacific record in 3:49.43.

### Ukrainian runner banned for drug use

STUTTGART (AP) - Lyudmila Dzhigalova, a 400-metre runner from Ukraine, has been banned for four years after testing positive for steroids, the IAAF said Saturday. Dzhigalova failed an out-of-competition test in Kiev, Ukraine, on July 31, said International Amateur Athletic Federation spokeswoman Jayne Pearce. "She has been suspended for four years pentling a hearing with her national federation," Pearce said. Dzhigalova, 31, had been entered in the 400 and the 4-x-400 relay at the World Championships, which opened in Stuttgart Saturday. Her ban takes immediate effect, ruling her out of the Championships. Dzhigalova finished second in the 400 metres at the 1987 World University Games and the 1990 Goodwill Games. She won a gold medal at the 1992 Olympics as part of the 4-by-400 relay team who led the United States to the women's world representing the Unified Team of former Soviet republics.

For

Sale

"I feel victorious just being here," said Reynolds, who has a fought a long and coastly legal battle with the sport's governing

body over his drug suspension. "I don't think anybody could go through the trials and tribulations that I've been though and make it here today," he said. 'It's time to put the negative stuff

behind me and bring out the man in me. As the fourth World Championships got underway Saturday at the Gottlieb-Daimler Stadium, track and field continued to face a conflict between athletes and administrators over the issue of prize money.

Lewis says this will be the last time he competes at the world championships without getting paid. Noureddine Morceli is less patient - he's holding out for cash prizes now.

Earlier this year, many leading American athletes threatened to boycott the Stuttgart meet unless they were offered prize money. The International Amateur Athletic Federation refused.

A boycott was averted, however, when the LAAF arranged for Mercedes to offer new-model 'C" cars worth about \$30,000 to each individual winner.

That was enough to appease most of the athletes — for now. "This is hard work for nothing," said Lewis, winner of the 100 metres at all three previous World Championships. "I think it is the last time we will be running

for free. "Having a car for first place is a step in the right direction," said American 400-metre runner Michael Johnson.

It wasn't enough, though, to convince Morceli to compete. The Algerian world recordholder and reigning world champion at 1,500 metres is vowing to stay away unless he's paid.

"In any big show, all the actors are paid," said Morceli's agent, Amar Brahmia. "In this case, they don't want to pay the actors. There is at least one actor who refuses to work for free."

The LAAF has warned Morceli that he risks a two-vear suspension and a ban from the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta if he doesn't show up. Behind-the-scenes efforts are continuing to try to get him to change his mind.

There still is a change Morceli could compete, since he is staying in bordering Switzerland and the 1,500 heats don't begin until next Thursday.

For some of the other 1,862 athletes from 189 countries, the competition started right away. Saturday's schedule includes another medal event --- the men's

marathon. Also on tap were heats in the men's 800 and 5,000, and women's qualifying in the 400, 800 and 3,000.

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# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Rebels fight navy in Sri Lanka lagoon

COLOMBO (R) - Tamil guerrilias exchanged fire with navy patrols in a disputed lagoon separating the rebel-controlled northern Jaffna peninsula from mainland Sri Lanka early Saturday, residents said. They said the shooting erupted when the rebels were returning to Jaffna after escorting a convoy of boats carrying about 2,000 Jaffna residents to the mainland. "We don't know if there were any casualties," said a resident who reached Vavuniya, the northernmost town under government control. "We heard the sound of battle." The military has banned traffic across the Jaffna Lagoon to prevent its use by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels, fighting for independence in the island's north and east.

### Russia condemns Ukrainian statements

MOSCOW (AP) - Ukraine is violating pledges to become nuclear-free by claiming the START I nuclear arms treaty allows it to keep SS-24 long-range missiles, a Russian official said Friday. "The SS-24 missiles are not excluded from the START I treaty." said Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Demurin "Such statements represent a deliberate falsification of facts and international agreements." Former Soviet nuclear arms are still scattered across Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan. All except Ukraine have ratified the 1991 U.S.-Soviet START I treaty. International experts have said the strategic arms reduction treaty and related protocols — once ratified by all parties would leave Russia as the only nuclear power among the former Soviet republics. But Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk last month offered a new reading of the accord, saying it allowed his country to keep 46 of the SS-24 missiles. He proposed a special treaty between the United States, Ukraine and Russia on the destruction of the missiles, which are capable of carrying 10 warheads each.

### 'Black death' reported in CIS

MOSCOW (R) - A case of "black death" has been diagnosed in Kazakhstan, the latest in a series of horrible diseases thought to have been eradicated this century that have resurfaced in the former Soviet Union. Postfactum News Agency said a woman had been taken to hospital in Kazakhstan's Kzyl-Ordinsk region with Bubonic plague, the black death which in the 14th century killed as much as three quarters of the population of Europe and parts of Asia. Symptoms include high fever, chills, painful swellings in the groin and haemorrhages that turn black. The agency quoted doctors as saying the woman caught the acutely-infectious disease after cutting up the body of a hare which her husband had brought home from a hunting trip. Vladlen Kim, deputy head of the local epidemic centre, told Postfactum that 119 people who had been in contact with the woman were being kept under medical observation. Diseases which were once almost eradicated are reappearing as the former Soviet state health system crumbles. They include cholera, diphtheria and malignant anthrax. Russia's sanitary and epidemics service said it had registered 17 cases of cholera in the past six weeks, either brought in from the Indian sub-continent or caused by poor quality drinking water at home. Dphtheria is also

### Sierra Leone troops recapture towns

FREETOWN (R) - Sierre Leone troops have recaptured two eastern towns held by rebels for two years, an army officer said Friday. Lieutenant-Colonel Kess Boya said his men took the towns of Giehun and Buidnidi on Aug. 11, injuring three rebels of Foday Sankoh's Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and suffering one wounded on their side. The RUF invaded eastern Sierra Leone in March 1991, with the help of Charles Taylor's rebels in neighbouring Liberia, and took control of a number of towns in the border country. Col. Boya said the RUF still held the district capital of Kailahun but his men were making progress. "We are with the hope that the war will soon come to an end in the eastern and southern regions of the country," he told Reuters.

### Cuban pastors join U.S. protest

HAVANA (R) — Three Cuban clergymen began a hunger strike in solidarity with colleagues in Texas who want the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba lifted. The clergymen, one a member of Cuba's National Assembly, began the fast in front of the U.S. interests section in Havana. They said they were supporting 13 clergymen fasting in Laredo, Texas, to protest the ban on delivery of a school bus to Cuba. "We want to express our solidarity with our brothers there (in the United States)," the Reverend Raul Suarez, a Baptist pastor, told reporters. He was accompanied in the protest vigil outside the seafront U.S. diplomatic building in Havana by and the Reverend Juan Ramon De La Paz the Reverend Nerva Cot, both Episcopalians. In Laredo members of the Minneapolis-based religious group Pastors For Peace are in the 16th day of a hunger strike to protest the refusal by U.S. customs officials to allow a yellow school bus to leave U.S.

### Taiwan asks U.N. to reconsider

TAIPEI (AP) — Taiwan, looking to end its international isolation, said Saturday that the United Nations should reconsider its decision to exclude Taiwan. A Foreign Ministry statement said the U.N.'s decision to admit Communist China in 1971, forcing Taiwan to give up its U.N. seat, was a "a product of the cold "The United Nations should review this issue in the post-cold war era to protect the rights of (Taiwan's) 20.8 million people," the statement said. Recently, Taiwan has begun lobbying to return to the United Nations, arguing that as the world's 14th largest trading nation it is too economically important to be isolated. Taiwan's Nationalist government fled here after defeat at the hands of Mao Tse-Tung's Communists in 1949. China regards Taiwan as a renegade province and has vigorously opposed Taiwanese moves to rejoin the United Nations.

### Italian police arrest top mafia boss

ROME (R) — Italian police arrested one of the country's most wanted mafia suspects after raiding a yacht off the island of Capri, state television reported. The reports said 38-year-old Felice Maniero was detained with eight other people on the vessel off the coast of the popular southern holiday island. Mr. Maniero, who faces accusations of criminal association and drug trafficking, had been a fugitive for more than two years. From the northeastern city of Venice, Mr. Maniero is believed to have close links with the Sicilian mafia. Police in Italy have scored a string of spectacular successes in the battle against organised crime

### 4 story building collapses in S. Korea

SEOUL (AP) — A four-story building of shops and offices collapsed Saturday in downtown Pusan, South Korea's second largest city, killing at least one person, a news report said. Dozens of people raced from the building screaming moments before the building tilted and collapsed in rubble, said the national Yonhap News Agency. Soo Young-Mi, a 16-year-old high school student and the daughter of the owner of a restaurant on the first floor, was pulled from beneath the debris but died at the hospital, Yonhap said. An unidentified pedestrian in her 30s suffered serious injuries when she was hit by chunks of falling debris, Yonhap said. An automobile parked at the curb was crushed, it

### China orders stricter control of news

PEKING (R) - Tightening its vice-like grip on the news media, China has issued new orders requiring all groups to register news conference and strictly banning any leaks of "party and national secrets". The state council edict instructs news conference to "focus on the country's reform and opening-up, economic development and other major issues closely related to the people" the official Xinhua News Agency said at the weekend.

# Egyptian court clears 24 of murder charge, blasts police

CAIRO (Agencies) — A special security court acquitted 24 alleged Muslim extremists Saturday on charges they killed the speaker of Egypt's parliament. The chief judge blasted police for torturing confessions from the defendants.

Ten defendants, including one fugitive, were convicted of lesser weapons and other charges and sentenced to prison for terms at hard labour up to 15 years.

In finding everybody innocent of the Oct. 12, 1990, assassination of Parliament Speaker Rifaat Al Mahjoub, Chief Judge Wahid Mahmoud Ibrahim noted that none of 100 prosecution witnesses identified any of the defendants.

Additionally, he said, "none of the defendants have escaped torture. Medical reports showed that they were subjected to the ugliest forms of torture, including electric shock, hanging by the arms, blindfolding and handcuffing.

"The (Egyptian) judiciary's conscience rejects the police's use of these ugly methods. The acts of the security authorities reflect their shortcomings in discovering

Western governments and human rights organisations contend that Egyptian investigators routinely use torture in amassing evidence, especially against accused Islamic extremists.

But while defendants often complain of torture to courts trying them, such an outburst by a judge is unusual. Torture is seldom given as a reason for acquitting people.

The state-owned Middle East News Agency, quoting a judicial source, reported that prosecutors may ask for a retrial before another court on grounds of legal errors. The report did not specify what type of errors would nullify the verdict. The agency's report did not mention the judge's torture criticism.

The verdict was a blow for the government which has resorted to the courts as a key weapon in its battle against Muslim militants plotting to overthrow it and set up a purist Islamic state.

The eight-judge panel cleared all the defendants of the murder of Mr. Mahjoub, who was gunned down with five others outside a luxury hotel, and instead accused the police of extracting confessions by torture.

Nigerians

challenge

military government for a third

day.

Millions of people headed to the beach and to visit friends,

treating the general strike against

the regime of military dictator

General Ibrahim Babangida as an

Soldiers deployed to stop any

street protests were relaxed on

Saturday, lounging under high-way bridges with their rifles and

Human rights groups called the

organised stay-at-home strike a

success because it showed people

were ready to paralyse commerce

Yet the strike was confined to

the highly populated southwest

corner of the country, the ethnic

stronghold of Moshood K.O.

Abiola, the apparent winner of

annulled June 12 elections that

were to end a decade of military

rule over Nigeria's 90 million

Meanwhile, the military said it had overturned a bombing plot

Federal Information Secretary

Uche Chukwumerije declared

that a "disgruntled politician and

his agents" planned to explode

bombs in Lagos and the adminis-

trative capital Abuja, as well as to

blow up the pipelines from the southern oil fields.

alleged plot was orchestrated from the U.S. headquarters of

the International Telephone and

Mr. Abiola, a former ITT

chairman for Africa and the Mid-

dle East, responded with laughter

from the United States, where he

is lobbying for international

pressure to force General Baban-

Gen. Babangida indicated he

gida to honor the elections.

pressure to make his promised

Aug. 27 deadline for a civilian

On television Friday night, he

said Britain had sent a dispatch

"telling us what they thought we

Gen. Babangida responded

that "unless they come back to

colonise us again... they should

Telegraph Co.

government.

should do."

leave us alone."

Mr. Chukwumerije said the

to force their demands for demo-

riot helmets on the ground.

extended holiday.

regime

justice rejects that the police use all these ugly forms of torture. The court does not admit any evidence from the defendants extracted under torture," Judge Ibrahim told the packed and

tense court. Mr. Mahjoub was the most important Egyptian to be assassinated since President Anwar Sadat was killed in 1981.

The judge said medical reports showed that none of the 16 defendants in court escaped torture. Some who had confessed to planning the murder had been given electric shocks in their genitals, hung upside down, and severely

Some had been partially paralysed by the torture.

The judge said security forces resorted to turture to extract confessions "to justify their ineptness and impotence in catching the real culprits."

Fundamentalists praised the verdict but an Egyptian official said it proved that judges were being intimidated by militants and that President Hosni Mubarak was right to transfer militant cases to military courts to ensure harsh and swift punishment.

"The verdict is a farce. It is a real joke. If someone was found pickpocketing he would have been jailed for more than this," one official told Reuters.

This proves the government was right when it transferred militants to military courts becasue the judges are scared the militants would cut their throat if they convict them. This verdict will call for more trials in military courts." he said.

Bahaeddin Hassan from the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (EOHR) said the judge's statement was the strongest evidence that torture was used in Egypt and that the security authorities could no longer deny it. The court sentences, after a

leisurely trial lasting over two years, were in stark contrast to those handed down by special military courts set up by Mr. Mubarak last year, which have sentenced 21 militants to death over the past six months.

Relatives cheered, ululated and cried for joy at the verdicts. Some screamed "Allahu Akbar"

and fundamentalist lawyers praised the "honest and objectivity" of the Egyptian judiciary.

"The Egyptian judiciary has cleared the shame of Egyptian justice and highlighted the injustice of the military courts. This is a victory to Islam," militant leader Safwat Abdul Ghani told Reuters exultantly.

The judge said: "The Egyptian judiciary does not try people for their ideology and beliefs even if their ideology opposes the ruling government. These people have asked for the appliance of the Sharia law which conforms with the constitution."

Mr. Abdul Ghani, leader of the political wing in the Gama'a Al İslamiya (İslamic Group) fundamentalist organisation was jailed for five years with hard labour for possessing bullets and forging official papers. He is also standing trial for the killing of anti-fundamentalist writer Farag

Mamdouh Yousef, leader of the group's military wing, was jailed for seven years.

The judge said forensic proofs contradicted confused evidence given by prosecution witnesses. Out of over 100 prosecution witnesses, none could conclusively identify the defendants as the

The government had mounted a campaign against the militants who have attacked foreign tourists, Christians and police since March last year. More than 175 people have been killed and over 300 wounded in militant-related

One slogan that arose from the defendant's cage referred to the U.S.-based spiritual guide to Al

"Oh, Omar Abdul Rahman, you are the one who rocks the throne of tyranny. Tell everbody about us. Egypt is going to be ruled by the Koran

The trial opened in June 1991 in the same suburban courtroom, a converted theatre at a fairground, in which Sheikh Abdul Rahman and other fundamentalists were tried for the 1981 coup attempt that followed the assassination of President, Sadat. Sheikir Abdul Rahman, now fighting extradition from the United States, was acquitted.

Michael Jordan, who earlier

this year led the Chicago Bulls to

their third consecutive NBA

championship, has made no pub-

lic statement on his father's

death. His mother, Deloris, was

thought to be at her home in

North Carolina but also had not

The elder Jordan had not been

seen since late July when he

attended the funeral of a friend in

Wilmington. Family members,

who were reportedly used to Jor-

dan going off on his own, had not

Authorities said Thursday they

began searching for Jordan after

they learned he was the owner of

a luxury car found Aug. 5 in a

wooded area near Fayetteville. Th red Lexus 400 had been strip-

ped of its tires, stereo speakers and personalized licence plates,

the front windshield was shat-

tered and the back window was

ities said the vandalism to the car

may be unrelated to Jordan's

death, noting that it had been

driven to the area and locked.

old son, whose basketball success

brought him earnings estimated

at \$30 million a year and con-

tracts for everything from foot-

wear to hot dogs.

He shared in Michael Jordan's

success, was frequently at court-

side in Chicago Stadium, and

even appeared in commercials

son's more difficult moments.

When the Bulls star was accused

of excessive gambling during the NBA semifinals against the New

York Knicks, it was James Jordan

Jordan admitted cambling but

His gambling had prompted an

who served as his spokesman.

said his losses were exaggerated.

NBA investigation. He once paid

off \$165,000 in golff and poker

debts, including a \$57,000 check

to a convicted cocaine dealer, but

the NBA found no reason to

Esquinas said Friday that

The father also shared in the

Jordan was close to his 30-year-

Cumberland County author-

completely broken out.

commented publicly.

reported him missing.

# Kidnapping suspected in Jordan's murder

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) - Lusby said. The shooting death of James Jordan is being investigated as a kidnapping by the FBI, and authorities said NBA star Michael LAGOS (AP) — Shop doors were closed and the markets bare Jordan's father was killed soon after he vanished three weeks Saturday, a typically busy shop-ping day, as Nigerians defied the

A body found floating in a South Carolina creek Aug. 3 was identified Friday as Jordan's and authorities said they were treating the case as a homicide.

Jordan, the father of perhaps the most well-known athlete in the world, was last seen July 22, and his luxury car was found stripped in a wooded area near Fayetteville Aug. 5. His body was found near McColl, S.C., about 60 miles (96 kilometres) southwest of Favetteville

Authorities arrested a 16-yearold Fayetteville boy Friday in connection with the car-stripping incident, but added that it was unlikely the youth was involved in the Jordan death.

Dental records were used to identify the badly decomposed body as that of Jordan, 57. Records of the hawbone and teeth were taken at the time of the autopsy, then matched with the records taken to South Carolina. Mariboro County Coroner Tim Brown said the body was Cremated Aug. 6, after the autopsy but before it was identified.

Reached at home in Chicago's northern suburbs Friday, Michael Jordan's wife, Juanita, told the Chicago Sun-Times: "This is just like watching a movie. It's not real. You can't believe it's happening to your family. It just hasn't sunk in yet."

Michael Jordan arrived in Charlotte by chartered jet and immediately went to his parents' home.

Cumberland County authorities, who are in charge of the homicide investigation, said they had no suspects and no motive for the slaying. They reported no ransom demands had been made on the family. But Thomas Lusby, FBI assis-

tant special agent in charge in North Carolina, said the agency is treating the incident as a possible

his will and abducted," he said. "There aren't any witnesses coming forth. We've got to con-

kidnapping because Jordan "was last seen in North Carolina and his vehicle was recovered here and the body was recovered in South Carolina." "This gives us a reasonable presumption he was taken against

duct a thorough investigation and

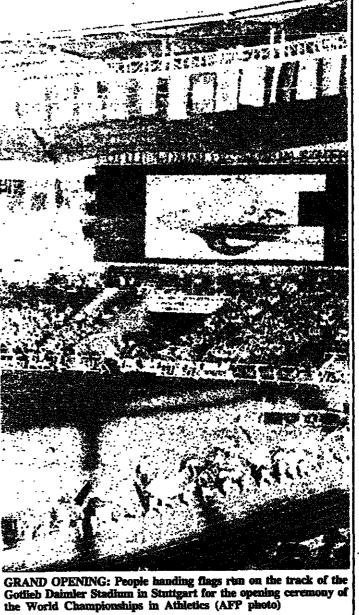
turn over every rock we can,"

James Jordan also liked to gamble, but he would not say whether he thought that might have played a role in his death. Dr. Keenek Garvin, a forensic pathologist at South Carolina's Newberry County Memorial Hos-

discipline him.

autopsy Aug. 4, said Jordan had been dead "quite a while." Bedsole declined to speculate on what may have happened or where it happened.

pital who helped perform the



# Aloni confirms meeting with PLO's Darwish

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli government minister has confirmed she met with a senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Paris last June.

Cultural Affairs Minister Shulamit Aloni, leader of the leftwing Meretz bloc, said she met with Mahmud Darwish, a member of the PLO's Executive Com-

"It was a few months ago. It is interesting and it is not news," Ms. Aloni told Renters. The confirmation comes as the Jewish state edges closer to breaking its policy against direct talks with the PLO which it has said is a "terrorist" group bent on the destruction of Israel.

Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi, who attended the meeting, said the sides discussed ways of advancing the 21month old Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. minister "We discussed the difficulties mission.

we perceived in the talks along with ways to get over the deadlock. It was done in a spirit of attempting to iron out difficulties." she said.

Asked if Ms. Aloni was representing the Israeli government at the meeting, she said: "Aloni was recent events."

there in her capacity as a minister and not on an individual basis." Israel said on Friday it would continue talking to Palestinian peace negotiators even though

they were appointed to senior PLO positions. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the appointments, announced at PLO headquarters

in Tunis Thursday, were some-thing of a "gimmick" and did not change the nature of the Middle the end of August. Earlier this week, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office confirmed Mr. Rabin knew in adv-

ance about a recent meeting Environment Minister Yossi Sarid held in Cairo with Nabil Shaath, a senior PLO official. The prime minister's spokesman said Mr. Rabin knew about

the meeting but stressed the minister was not on a government The overall head of the Palesti-

nian peace talks delegation, Fais-al Al Husseini, told Israel Television's Arabic news programme on Friday: "Meetings were held between Israeli ministers and members of the PLO before the

# **Botha: ANC must** choose peace or war

JOHANNESBURG (R) -South Africa's ruling National Party kicked off its campaign for next year's historic all-race election Saturday by challenging Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) to make up its. mind whether it wanted peace or

Foreign Minister Pick Botha told the party's first formal campaign rally that the ANC should act against its radical youth leader Peter Mokaba following a controversial call to arms this week.

"Can't you make up your minds what you want in this country? Do you want war or do you want peace?" Mr. Botha said, in remarks addressed to the He said it was not enough to let

Mr. Mokaba, leader of the ANC's militant youth wing, continue making inflammatory statements and then repudiate them later. "We will not be intimidated. We are not going to lie down," he added. Mr. Mokaba told black youths

at a funeral to stop shooting into the air and "direct those bullets against (President F.W.) de Klerk.' He also called for the disman-

tling of migrant-worker hostels occupied by the rival Inkatha Freedom Party and said soldiers and police should be driven from the black townships.

Roelf Meyer, chief government negotiator at multi-party democracy talks dominated by his party and the ANC, told the National Party rally that the party would guarantee a democracy free from minority domination. "We want to be builders and we want to get rid of the breakers in our society.

We want a democracy in which there will be no room for the Mokabas and the other breakers of this world," he said.

Police are already considering whether to bring charges against Mr. Mokaba for fanning racial tension by leading youths in the guerrilla chant "kill the Boer, kill the farmer."

The ANC repudiated his latest remarks Friday, but made no mention of disciplinary action

Mr. Meyer said negotiators were making steady progress towards the first all-race election currently scheduled for April 27. but he said key differences over the powers of regional governments remained to be settled.

Conservative Party leader Fer-di Hartzenberg told his white separatist movement at a conference Friday evening he would try to force a postponement of the April election. It "cannot and must not take place within the present violence ... we will deal with the violence and make sure there is peace in South Africa,"

Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi met Inkatha leaders at his Ulundi capital Saturday to decide whether to return to the multi-party democracy forum. Inkatha stormed out last month in protest against the majority decision to overrule his objections and set an election date. Mr. Buthelezi has accused the ANC and the government of colluding to sideline him.

Inkatha officials said the talks were likely to continue all day and no decision was expected on

## Russian mobsters use tank in

street battle MOSCOW (R) — Russian mobsters hijacked an ultra-modern army tank as they battled angry Muslim market traders in a major industrial city this week, Postfactum News Agency said. One of the traders was killed and two seriously injured during bloody si street fighting in the Urals city of Nizhny Tagil, the agency quoted Interior Ministry officials as saying. Fighting broke out after the traders, mostly Muslim Ingushis from the Caucasus Mountains fringing southern Russia decided they had had enough of handing over profits to the mafia. About 50 traders swept into town to settle their scores with the gangsters Thursday, brandishing guns and grenades, in a convo 10 cars. Sverdiovsk region Interior Ministry Press Centre said that a band of mobsters escaped from the shootout and broke into a nearby army tank training ground, overpowering security guards to seize a tank. Nizhny Tagil's Uralvagonzavod factory is the world's biggest producer of tanks and railway carriages, turning out an average of 1,500 tanks a year. The hi-tech T-90 tank was being fine-tuned by a mechanic before being handed over for army use. No soldiers were on board. Gangsters forced the mechanic to surrender by threatening him with a sawn-off shotgun and hand grenades, Postfactum said. Gang bosses then as manded that the city be "purged" of all its dark-skinned Cancasian residents, frequent targets of Russian race hate. Police and Interior Ministry troops finally managed to put a stop to the fighting and. "smoke out" the

### Thai woman on drug charges in Singapore

gangsters from their tank.

SINGAPORE (R) — A Thai woman was charged in count Saturday with trafficking in 4.2 kilogrammes (9.2 lbs) of heroin. The woman, 32, was arrested at Singapore's Changi Airport Thursday by customs officials who found the heroin stuffed in the lining of her luggage, a Cussaid. The heroin is estimated to have a street value of Singapore 4 million (\$2.5 million). The woman, who arrived on a flight from Bangkok, is the first Thai arrested for transporting lags illegally through the Singapore airport, the customs spokesman airport, the customs spontaged in said. She will be remanded in custody pending investigations, a Central Narcotics Bureau official Make said. Under Singapore's stringent anti-drug laws, anyone convicted of trafficking in more than 15 😸 grams (half an ounce) of heroin or 30 grams (one ounce) of morphine or 500 grams (18 ounces) of cannabis faces a mandatory death sentence. Singapore has hanged 38 people for drug trafficking, 🛬 most for dealing in heroin.

### Navy charges officer from Tailhook convention

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — The navy formally charged a third officer in the 1991 Tailhook Association ciation meeting. Lt. Cole V. Cowden, 32, was served with a copy of the charges and will face a court-martial, said navy spokesman Cmdr. John Tull. Lt. Cowden said he is accused of conduct unbecoming an officer and conduct of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces. He denounced the charges. "Once upon a time, the navy was trying to find men who assaulted women," he said. "Now, it's boiled down to a few men who the navy's going to have to hate to avoid embarrassment." Li-Cowden is assigned to a flight squadron at Norfolk Naval Air Station, Cmdr. Tull said. At the time of the Tailbook meeting, was stationed at the Miraman Naval Air Station in San Diego. Naval Air Station in San Probeen ordered to undergo courts martial as a result of the Pentagon's investigation of the Tailhook meeting in Las Vegas, where dozens of women said they were molested by drunken

### Indonesia arrests captain of tragedy boat

JAKARTA (R) — indonesian police have arrested a captain alleged to have forced 47 jobseekers into the sea where they drowned after his ship hit a sand bank off the Malaysian coast Antara News Agency said Satura day. All 120 passengers forced into the water some metres from shore in the Mala Straits after the accident last